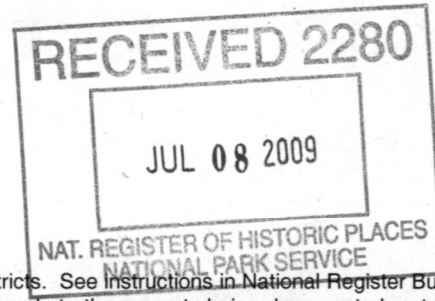


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

632



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name Brooklyn Trust Company Building
Other names/site number Chase Manhattan

2. Location

street & number 177 Montague Street not for publication
city or town Brooklyn vicinity
State New York code NY county Kings code 047 zip code 11201

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Ruth A. Peupont *DS HPO* *6/30/09*
Signature of certifying official Date

Title State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Edson H. Beall *8.20.09*
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal
-

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- building(s)
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		Objects
		buildings
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Financial institution

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Financial institution

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

Italian Renaissance

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE/Limestone

walls: STONE/Limestone

roof: CERAMIC TILE

other: STONE/Granite

METAL/Iron

Narrative Description¹

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Brooklyn Trust Company Building is an Italian Renaissance-style bank building located on Montague Street in Brooklyn Heights. It is located between the Brooklyn Heights Historic District (a local and State and National Register-listed historic district) and the portion of Downtown Brooklyn centered on Brooklyn Borough Hall. The nearby district is composed of mostly low-rise row houses, churches, synagogues and other institutional buildings. The district also includes some high-rise apartment buildings, and the Renaissance Revival-style Brooklyn Historical Society (1878-1881) is located at the southwest corner of Pierrepont and Clinton Streets, directly across from the Brooklyn Trust Company. Immediately adjacent to the east of the Brooklyn Trust Company is a 3-story bank building with a temple-front design. The surrounding area also includes several tall modern office buildings; a 14-story office building from 1960 is on the same block at 201 Montague Street and a 22-story office building from 1987 is located directly across Pierrepont Street. The Brooklyn Trust Company Building was designed by the prominent firm of York & Sawyer and was constructed in 1913-16 in a style modeled after the *palazzi* of the sixteenth-century Italian High Renaissance. The five-story bank building's front façade has a rusticated limestone base and a *piano nobile* faced in smooth limestone, which features a double-height Corinthian colonnade and monumental arched entrances. A five-story, three-bay annex, also faced in rusticated limestone, is located at the rear of the structure. The interior of the banking hall is a single vaulted space that recalls ancient baths and basilicas as well as Italian Renaissance Churches.

Narrative Description

EXTERIOR

The neo-Italian Renaissance-style Brooklyn Trust Company building projects an image of stability, pride, and tradition. The five-story bank building occupies a long, narrow corner site bounded by Montague Street to the south, Clinton Street to the west, and Pierrepont Street to the north. Though the building's east façade is adjacent to another bank building (originally Peoples Trust, now a branch of Citibank), the Brooklyn Trust Company building appears as a discrete, well-proportioned, and finely crafted urban *palazzo*. The building has two distinctive sections—a base and a *piano nobile*. The rusticated, tooled limestone base is articulated by a double-height arcade and mezzanine level. The upper section, or *piano nobile*, is faced in smooth limestone with a double-height Corinthian colonnade with alternating engaged columns and pilasters on shallow piers. The building's north and south facades have monumental arched entrances, while the long west façade is punctuated by seven double-height arched windows. The building has a steel frame and is faced in rusticated limestone with a water table faced in pink Maine granite. The north façade has a five-story, three-bay annex to its east that is also faced in rusticated limestone. The building's roof is green Ohio tile.

MONTAGUE STREET FAÇADE

The bank's south façade opens onto Montague Street. The central, rounded-arched primary entrance is recessed and flanked by single rectangular windows obscured by protective metal grilles inspired by Italian Renaissance prototypes. Single, small square deeply-recessed windows (the grilles now removed) are located above these larger windows at the mezzanine level. All four windows have keystone lintels. Flagpoles project from the mezzanine level lintels. The keystone above the arched entrance is a carved ribbon cartouche with a shield depicting an eagle in profile and the dates 1866 and 1915 written in Roman numerals (1866 is the year the Brooklyn Trust Company was chartered; 1915 is the year this bank building was constructed). Above the shield are crossed keys and a winged helmet.

¹ The summary and narrative descriptions are adapted from Nancy J. Goeschal, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission exterior and interior designation reports for the Brooklyn Trust Company (June 25, 1996).

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The entrance, accessible by a set of five low steps, is set within a fine-grained limestone enframement. This limestone, known as Napoleon Gray, was quarried in Missouri and the enframement was designed "after an Italian modeller's cast" by the firm Donnolly & Ricci. It depicts scrolled acanthus *rincaux* with birds, flowers, and animals, emerging at each side from classical urns flanked by centaur-like youths. The style and motifs are derived from Roman Imperial art that was rediscovered during the Italian Renaissance. Atop the enframement is a lunette with carved acanthus consoles flanking a rectangular plaque inscribed with "ERECTED MCMCV" [1915] and surmounted by an American eagle with outstretched wings. The lunette has a decorative stone grille of leaves sectioned by two vertical bands of classical medallions and urns.

Double-height, foliated wrought iron doors, or gates, have intertwined grillework. These doors, when open, are set within the east and west walls of the recessed entrance. When closed, the wrought iron doors protect the building's bronze and glass inner doors into the banking hall. Flanking the entrance stairs at street level are two tall, wrought iron torchers set atop squared stone bases. The lampposts, stylistically derived from Renaissance sources, have four winged and horned mythological lions supporting an upper tier of tortoises. Atop this base is a column of ornamented leaves and birds springing from a base of acanthus, fruit, flowers, and volutes. A single globe light tops each torcher.

At the *piano nobile* are paired rectangular windows with two-over-two sash at both the fourth and fifth floors. The windows are recessed in three bays and connected by the double-height Corinthian colonnade. Stone balustrades are located below the fourth floor windows and dark red marble panels separate the fourth and fifth floor windows. Above the fifth floor is a frieze with plain square panels and relief panels with flanking urns. The relief panels are inscribed with "BREUCKLYN-NEW LOTS-RED HOOK" near the east corner and "GREENPOINT-FLATBUSH-WALLABOUT" near the west corner, identifying the areas of Brooklyn served by the Brooklyn Trust Company. The building's roof line is characterized by a denticulated cornice and lion-headed waterspouts topped by the scalloped profile of the building's roof tiles.

PIERREPONT STREET FAÇADE

The building's secondary entrance is from the north, Pierrepont Street façade. The north façade is nearly identical to the south, Montague Street façade. The Pierrepont Street façade differs in that its entrance is at street level and the Napoleon Gray limestone enframement relief extends on either side of the doorway from a calyx of acanthus leaves. Other differences include a pair of façade-mounted wrought iron octagonal lanterns that flank the entrance and depict spiky leaves and flowers with fleurs-de-lis. A flagpole projects from above the cartouche. The square windows at the mezzanine level retain the original grilles and the panels at the east and west corners of the frieze above the fifth floor are inscribed with "NEW UTRECHT-FLATLANDS-BREUCKLYN" and "GRAVESEND-GOWANUS-BUSHWICK," respectively.

PIERREPONT STREET ANNEX

The five-story office annex is located east of the main bank building. Like the main building, the lower three floors are faced in tooled, rusticated limestone with a pink Maine granite watertable. The annex's upper two floors are faced in smooth ashlar similar to the main building. The annex has a modest cornice. The building is three bays wide with paired windows at the center bay on the first through fourth floors; at the fifth floor is a single, wider window. Single windows are located at the two outer bays. All windows have two-over-two sash. The first floor windows have protective grilles with vertical metal bars. A small modern doorway has been added below the western window. The first, fourth, and fifth floor windows have keystoned lintels. On the third floor below the center bay is a panel inscribed with "BROOKLYN TRUST COMPANY CHARTERED AD MDCCCLXVI [1866] THIS BUILDING ERECTED ANNO DOMINI MCMXV [1915]." The panel is flanked with Renaissance-style shields—the eastern panel is adorned with bands in a checkerboard pattern with three small birds in profile; the western panel has an oak tree with exposed roots.

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CLINTON STREET FAÇADE

The building's long west façade continues the design of the building's north and south facades. The west façade has a seven-bay arcade at the base with single bays of windows at each end, much like the design of the north and south facades. The arcade's double-height, arched windows are recessed and divided into six sections by protruding mullions. The windows have stone panels below.

The *piano nobile's* Corinthian colonnade has 14 bays, doubling the rhythm of the seven-bay arcade at the base. The end bays have single, pedimented windows and cartouches at the fourth floor and small, rectangular windows at the fifth floor. The fourth and fifth floors of the west façade, like those on the north and south facades, have recessed windows with red marble panels between alternating pilasters and engaged columns with balustrades below the fourth floor windows. The windows on these floors have two-over-two sash. Pilasters and antae anchor this façade's corners. At each end of the architrave are panels bracketed by urns and inscribed with "ANNO DOMINI MCMXV [1915]." The denticulated cornice, lionhead water spouts, and tiled roof continue the roof silhouette of the north and south facades.

SUBSEQUENT ALTERATIONS

The Brooklyn Trust Company building's facades are well-maintained and preserved, with only minor alterations and none of which compromise the building's architectural integrity. Under the auspices of the Manufacturers [Hanover] Trust Company, the building's facades were cleaned (1953) "using modern techniques which completely eliminate the need...for procedures which can be injurious to architectural details on fine buildings." After cleaning, the building was repointed. Flagpoles have been rearranged, signs have been installed beneath the entryways that identify the current bank name—Chase—and additional bronze plaques have been affixed to the water table on either side of the north and south entrances. Window air conditioning units have been installed in some window openings. No significant alterations have been made to the building's facades.

INTERIOR

FIRST FLOOR

Banking Hall

The Brooklyn Trust Company's banking hall is a monumentally scaled, though relatively small, narrow rectangular room with a vaulted ceiling (see attached first floor plan.) The largely symmetrical, clearly organized, and richly detailed banking hall has a spatial organization and stylistic vocabulary that evokes a sense of security and serenity, pride, and tradition. With its design based in Academic Classicism principles, the banking hall incorporates the design elements of the Italian High Renaissance.

The vaulted banking hall is seven bays in length with single, centrally-located entrances from the north and south ends. The monochrome walls of burnished yellow-beige marble harmonize with the elaborate multi-colored coffered ceiling and intricate marble mosaic tile floor. The banking hall's walls are faced in marble with smooth rusticated pilasters on shallow piers at each corner that support a broad, arched architrave infilled with octagonal coffers and trapezoidal panels. The bank hall has large, decorative chandeliers. Fine materials and craftsmanship are readily apparent.

West and East Walls

Seven large double-height arched windows, divided by mullions into 61 panes per window, are centered within each bay on the building's west wall. On the opposite wall—the east wall—the arched window openings are mirrored by six blind arches and a round-arched window at the center bay. On both walls the window openings and the blind arches are flanked by smooth rusticated pilasters on shallow piers capped by a cornice of classical acanthus and running-dog motifs. A cast frieze located just below the window openings extends around the walls of the entire banking hall, interrupted only by piers and doorway openings. The cast frieze repeats a series of classical heads in profile and a bull set within circular

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medallions. They include the Roman goddess Minerva, the two-faced god Janus, and Alexander the Great, among others. All appear to be adapted from ancient coins—fitting symbolism for a bank building. These medallions alternate with classical urns and acanthus *rincaux*, flanked by serpent-tailed mythological monsters.

Within the center bay of the banking hall's west wall is a quarter-turn marble stairwell leading to the bank's basement level safety deposit vaults. The stair has two landings and a simple balustrade and handrail of polished, veined marble. The stairwell's walls are faced in marble and the stone floors have narrow geometric borders. Opposite the stairwell on the corresponding center bay of the banking hall's east wall is a door opening with a polished marble enframingent with a curved pediment with a central ribboned cartouche. The door has paneled wood with carved rosettes. A similar doorway opening is located to the north, in the fifth bay. In addition, two simple doorway openings at the sixth and seventh bays lead to offices east of the banking hall. The banking hall has paneled marble tellers' counters along the west wall. Along the east wall are wooden information desks and open seating areas (these are recent additions).

South Wall

The banking hall's primary entrance and vestibule open from the building's south wall along Montague Street. The entrance is set within a vestibule with decorative coffers and a single chandelier. A circular bronze openwork clock is centered above the entrance doorway. The double-height doorway opening has a finely crafted enframingent with a delicate cast relief of flowers, leaves, and vines, along with classical urns, birds, and mythological creatures, ox skulls, and cornucopia—an ancient Roman vocabulary of ornament revived during the Renaissance. The doorway opening is capped by a Renaissance-style shield and enframed by a classically-inspired surround. Above the doorway opening is a rectangular relief panel inscribed in Roman lettering that reads "COMMERCE DEFIES EVERY WIND, OUTRIDES EVERY TEMPEST AND INVADES EVERY ZONE." This relief panel is flanked by reliefs of nude classical youths, holding cornucopia and shallow bowls, and is surmounted by winged lions to each side of a classical urn. The doorway opening has a bronze and glass single-height modern revolving door with an original bronze and glass transom above.

North Wall

The banking hall's north wall is nearly identical to the south wall, with a few distinctive differences. The panel above the doorway opening is inscribed with "SOCIETY IS BUILT UPON TRUST AND TRUST UPON CONFIDENCE IN ONE ANOTHER'S INTEGRITY." Two low, marble steps lead up to single-height double doors set within the original enframingent. The doors are located below a bronze and glass transom.

Offices

Foyer and Main Office

The foyer and main office, located within the annex structure, is accessible by four doors open from the fourth through seventh bays of the banking hall's east wall. Two of the four doors, opening from the fourth and fifth bays, are set within polished marble enframingents and have paneled wood doors. The other two doorways open from the sixth and seventh bays and have a more modest design.

The foyer and main office have dark wood paneled walls and decorative plaster ceilings. The foyer has built in cabinetry and the ceiling plaster work depicts acanthus leaves and other floral elements. The main office's paneled walls have pilasters and a denticulated wood cornice. A dark gray marble fireplace is located at one end of the office and a paneled wood door with an arched pediment opens into the banking hall. A chandelier hangs from the center of the ceiling and is set within the ceiling plasterwork that features a variety of leaves and vines.

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Northwest Corner Office

The northwest corner office is a small slightly rectangular room with two windows. The office has a fireplace with a wooden mantel carved with nude classical youths and pendant-like details. The fireplace opening has a brown veined granite surround. Above the fireplace is a large mirror recessed slightly into the wall, with a fanlight above. The office's ceiling is vaulted like that of the banking hall. It has decorative plasterwork depicting leaves and vines. The arched sections of the walls also have decorative plasterwork with leaves, vines, and urns.

SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS

The second and third floors are located in the annex building. These floors have been significantly altered and do not include any intact original architectural elements.

FOURTH FLOOR

The conference room is the only intact original space on the fourth floor. It is a long, rectangular room with wood paneled walls, a low arched ceiling, two window bays, and a fireplace. The ceiling has decorative plasterwork with geometrical and floral detailing. The two window bays each contain two rows of five vertically paired windows with divided lights and thick concrete mullions. The windows are recessed and have a wide sill with cast iron ventilation grilles. A fireplace on the south wall has a marble surround with foliated decorative molding. The conference room also has two chandeliers and sconces on the walls.

FIFTH FLOOR

The fifth floor has a central, double-loaded corridor with offices on either side. The center section of the corridor has wood wainscoting. The doors opening from the corridor have wood surrounds, transoms above, and additional windows opening into the corridor. The floor has carpeting and the ceiling has acoustical tiles. Original fireplaces with black marble mantelpieces remain intact in some offices on this floor.

SIXTH FLOOR

The sixth floor does not contain any intact original design elements. It has plaster walls and acoustical tile drop ceilings.

BASEMENT

The basement level is directly below the banking hall and is accessible by the stair from the banking hall, described above. The basement ceiling is vaulted and the corridor portion has decorative plasterwork. The main basement corridor has marble-clad walls and flooring. The walls continue the design aesthetic of the main banking hall above. The floors have a lighter marble border with gray marble panels set within the borders. The basement contains two vault rooms, both of which are located within the northern portion of the basement. An arched bronze grille screen separates the vault area from the other rooms in the basement. The screen has a central door with a clock above. Within the screened vault area is a marble stair with six rounded steps and bronze handrails opening into the main vault room. This room has an arched ceiling. The floors are marble with a light colored marble border and a central gray marble panel. The primary vault is at the far end of the room and has a massive steel surround and door. Arched doorways open from both sides of this room. One such doorway opens into a secondary vault to the east. This doorway has a bronze grille screen similar in style, but at a smaller scale than the primary vault screen.

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)

- 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.
- 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 the 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Architecture

Period of Significance

1916-1950

Significant Dates

1916

1950

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

York & Sawyer

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance commences with the date of completion of the building in 1916. The period of significance ends in 1950, when the Brooklyn Trust Company merged with the Manufacturers Trust Company, legally ending the existence of the Brooklyn Trust Company.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

The Brooklyn Trust Company Building is significant under National Register Criteria A and C. It is significant under Criterion A in the area of commerce, possessing local significance as a prominent financial institution in Brooklyn from its completion in 1916 through the Brooklyn Trust Company's merger with the Manufacturers Trust Company in 1950. The property is also locally significant under Criterion C for its architectural significance. The bank building was designed by the prominent architectural firm York & Sawyer and is an example of the High Italian Renaissance style adapted to a financial institution.²

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

CRITERION A

The former Brooklyn Trust Company building is significant under **Criterion A** in the area of commerce for the period of 1916 to 1950, which corresponds to the completion of the building's construction and the company's merger with Manufacturers Trust Company. The building has significance on the local level for the important role that the Brooklyn Trust Company played in Brooklyn from its founding during the aftermath of the Civil War until its consolidation with larger banks in the mid-twentieth century. Its founders, subsequent trustees, and administrators were notable Brooklynites, committed not only to fiduciary but also to community responsibility. Today, the largely intact building is a reminder of the importance of the institution in the Brooklyn community. Alterations have been minimal and the bank retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

CRITERION C

The former Brooklyn Trust Company building is architecturally significant under National Register **Criterion C** as an example of an Italian Renaissance-style bank building erected to support the needs of Brooklyn. Designed by the prominent firm of York & Sawyer, the Brooklyn Trust Company building was constructed in 1913-16 in a style modeled after the *palazzi* of the sixteenth-century Italian High Renaissance. York & Sawyer specialized in bank buildings and, for the Brooklyn Trust Company building, they adapted the Italian Renaissance style to the imagery and functions of American banking in the early twentieth century. The design of the interior banking hall, a single-vaulted space, also recalls ancient baths and basilicas as well as Italian Renaissance Churches. Located near Brooklyn Borough Hall and at the edge of Brooklyn Heights, this is the finest of the buildings on the Montague Street block known as "Bank Row."

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)³

(see Continuation Sheet)

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)
 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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

² This summary statement of significance and following narrative statement of significance is adapted from Nancy J. Goeschal, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission exterior and interior designation reports for the Brooklyn Trust Company (June 25, 1996).

³ This section is adapted primarily from Nancy J. Goeschal, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission exterior and interior designation reports for the Brooklyn Trust Company (June 25, 1996).

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Name of Property **Brooklyn Trust Company Building**

County and State **Kings County, New York**

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SITE HISTORY

In the early 19th century, the site of the Brooklyn Trust Company building was part of the estate of Hezekiah B. Pierrepont. Pierrepont was one of the original developers of Brooklyn Heights—he laid out its street plan—and Montague Street was named for Lady Mary Wortley Montague, an English poet and Pierrepont cousin. Following Pierrepont's death in 1838⁴, the lots on the site block were sold by his heirs, and in the 1840s and 1850s the first buildings were erected, among them a large mansard-roofed house with gardens that was built for George Taylor, a New York lawyer and U.S. Congressman. The Pierrepont Street portion of the site was first occupied in 1844 by a 2-story building for the Greenleaf Female Institute.⁵ This building was taken over in 1865 by the recently-established Brooklyn Club.⁶

BANK HISTORY

The Brooklyn Trust Company was founded on April 14, 1866 by a New York State Legislative Charter, and opened for business in June 1868. In the wake of the Civil War, banking throughout the country was in a state of chaos, and measures such as the 1865 Congressional Banking Act were intended to stabilize the national economy. According to the Company's own publications, it was established "in a response to an urgent demand in Brooklyn for a strong banking institution which should act as executor or trustee." As described in the building's New York City Landmark designation report, this "urgent demand" is presumably the result of war casualties and the many widows and children who found themselves in need of financial guidance.

The founders of the bank were highly prominent Brooklynites; not only trustees, but also trustworthy members of the community. They included J. Carson Brevoort, Daniel Chauncey, Henry J. Cullen, Daniel F. Fernald, Jasper W. Gilbert, William M. Harris, William B. Lewis, Alexander McCue, Henry E. Pierrepont, John H. Prentice, John T. Runcie, Cornelius J. Sprague, William Wall, James Weaver, and Alfred M. Wood.

The Company's first president was Ethelbert S. Mills. Records of its earliest years reflect a sound investment and return policy; however, during the Panic of 1873 President Mills apparently believed the bank to be in danger of collapse. Although Mills was never publicly accused of mismanagement, he committed suicide. After two months of inquiries and investigations, the bank proved solvent. Ripley Ropes was elected Mill's successor. From this time forward the Brooklyn Trust Company enjoyed steady growth and an ever-increasing reputation. As the Company expanded, it was known for its conservative investments, and while it offered its clients the full services of a commercial bank, it apparently continued to specialize in estate and trust management.

After Ropes' presidency, the Brooklyn Trust Company was headed by Christian S. Christensen from 1890 to 1900, by Theodore S. Miller from 1900 to 1913, and by Edward P. Maynard from 1913 to 1927. The first two branches of many were opened during Miller's presidency: one at Bedford Avenue and Fulton Street (1903), the other in Manhattan's financial district, at Wall Street and Broadway (1907). In January 1913 the Long Island Loan and Trust Company merged with the Brooklyn Trust Company. By this time the bank's capital had increased from the original \$150,000 to \$1,500,000.

Under Edwin P. Maynard's administration the Company continued to flourish. A new headquarters (the current building at 177 Montague Street) was constructed starting in 1913, and branch offices in Bay Ridge and Flatbush opened. In 1927 Maynard became Chairman of the Board of Trustees and George L. McLaughlin was appointed president. McLaughlin was to steer the bank through its period of greatest growth, not only in the final boom years of the late 1920s, but also those of the Great Depression. In 1929, the Mechanics Bank, one of Brooklyn's oldest and largest commercial banks, was

⁴ "The Heights of Long Ago." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, April 6, 1890, p. 18.

⁵ "Old School Girl Days." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, November 20, 1887, p. 6.

⁶ "The Brooklyn Club." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, November 27, 1865, p. 2.

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Name of Property Brooklyn Trust Company Building

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consolidated with the Brooklyn Trust. Through further mergers during the 1930s, the bank acquired branches in Queens and Staten Island. In this period the bank had 31 branches throughout the city. One such branch—at Seventh Avenue and Carroll Street in Park Slope—was modeled in architectural terms after the headquarters at 177 Montague Street, though the building was executed in stone and was more modest in size. Under McLaughlin, who was a fan of the Brooklyn Dodgers, the bank handled the estates of all the baseball club's original owners.

The Brooklyn Trust Company, through further mergers and acquisitions, became an amalgamation of more than a dozen original banking institutions, always retaining its preeminence and founding name. In 1950, a merger with Manufacturers Trust Company, a bank with its own old Brooklyn history, legally ended the separate existence of the Brooklyn Trust Company. A newspaper article from that time noted that the merger was the biggest “since the outbreak of World War II and probably the biggest in the metropolitan area since 1932.”⁷ The Manufacturers Trust Company merged in 1961 with the Hanover Bank, forming the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company. Thirty years later, this bank merged with Chemical Bank. The Chemical Bank later merged with the Chase Manhattan Corporation, in 1996, and in 2000 Chase Manhattan merged with J.P. Morgan & Company.

BUILDING HISTORY

As described above, the Brooklyn Trust Company was founded in 1866. The Company first leased its offices at the corner of Court and Joralemon Streets. In 1873, the Company purchased the corner site on Montague and Clinton Streets, which at that time was occupied by the Taylor mansion. Montague Street between Court and Clinton Streets had been developed with three major cultural institutions in the 1860s and early 1870s—the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 1860, the Mercantile Library in 1869, and the Brooklyn Art Association in 1872—and banks, law firms, and title insurance and real estate companies had clustered around Brooklyn's new City Hall (a block to the east) following its construction in 1849. As early as 1857, the Mechanics Bank had erected a building at the corner of Montague and Fulton (now Cadman Plaza West) Streets. It was within this climate of development that the Brooklyn Trust Company decided to convert the former Taylor mansion into its headquarters. Converted and gradually enlarged, this building served as the Company's headquarters for 40 years, until the development of the current structure.

As the Brooklyn Trust Company grew, so too did development in the immediate area, becoming increasingly commercial. The 9-story Real Estate Exchange was built in 1890 at 189-191 Montague Street. When use of the Brooklyn Art Association's building declined, its lower floors were leased to the Peoples Trust Company bank (from 1891). In 1896, the Mechanics Bank erected a new 10-story office building on its original site. The site of the Brooklyn Academy of Music was redeveloped by banking and title companies, including the 10-story Lawyers Title Insurance Company building at 188-190 Montague Street. Interspersed with these new tall office buildings were a series of low, predominantly 2- or 3-story neoclassical bank and insurance company buildings, constructed in the early 1900s, which led this block to be dubbed “Bank Row.”

In 1913 the officers of the Brooklyn Trust Company decided to demolish their old headquarters in the former Taylor mansion and erect a new, larger, up-to-date building. They acquired the property of the Brooklyn Club to the north, thus consolidating a site along the entire Clinton Street blockfront, between Montague and Pierrepont Streets. Construction of the new building was carried on in two separate campaigns, beginning at the north. While the Company's headquarters in the former Taylor mansion remained open, the Brooklyn Club building was razed, and the new section of the building was completed in the late summer of 1915. The Company then switched its operations to the new portion of the building, while the second, Montague Street section was built on the site of the old headquarters. The entire new structure was officially opened in September 1916.

⁷ “Merger of Borough's Two Oldest, Largest Banks Awes Brooklynites.” *New York Amsterdam News*, September 9, 1950, pp. B1, B3.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property Brooklyn Trust Company Building

County and State Kings County, New York

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8

Page 3

BANK BUILDINGS AND ARCHITECTURAL IMAGERY

In the years following the Civil War when New York's banks were proliferating at a rapid rate, the majority of banking institutions catering to private clients—such as savings and trust companies—were housed in converted residential and office buildings, rather than in buildings designed specifically to meet their banking needs. Corner sites were considered convenient, relatively conspicuous, and therefore desirable. The converted Taylor mansion fits this pattern as it was substantial, reassuring, and convenient yet discreet; its architectural style did not proclaim its function.

Some twenty years later, a new trend in bank design for savings and trust companies began to emerge. Due to volatile economic conditions, bank officers were inclined to reassure private investors that their banks were stable and secure. One way to reinforce confidence in the banking system was by establishing a strong public image. This could be accomplished through architecture. The bank building was a "modern strongbox"—a physical, tangible statement of fiduciary strength. Historic architectural styles were used to further enhance this image. This approach to the architecture of bank buildings was influenced by two major architectural trends at popular at that time—the City Beautiful movement and Academic Classicism—both of which had arisen in the wake of the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition of 1893.

One of the first grand neo-classical bank buildings to be designed in accordance with these trends in architecture was the Bowery Savings Bank (1894, McKim, Mead & White; listed on the State/National Register and a designated New York City Landmark). The building's construction was supervised by Edward York, one of the architects of the Brooklyn Trust Company building. The Bowery Savings Bank's design, with a colossal Corinthian order and a pedimented temple front, recalls ancient Roman precedents.

Banks designed during this period made intentional allusions to Roman temples and Greek treasury buildings. They also incorporated references to older, long-established American banks from the early 19th century that were designed in the Greek Revival style. This Greco-Roman neo-classical style used for bank buildings remained the predominant architectural style of banking building for the next 30 years. York & Sawyer implemented variations of the neo-classical style for the majority of the many banks they were commissioned to design, beginning with their first bank building in 1899, the temple-fronted Franklin Savings Bank. For the Brooklyn Trust Company building, York & Sawyer implemented an alternative neo-classical style based on Italian Renaissance prototypes, as described below.

YORK & SAWYER, ARCHITECTS

York & Sawyer was one of the most prominent and prolific New York architecture firms during the first three decades of the twentieth century. Designing in the tradition of Academic Classicism, York & Sawyer specialized in educational institutional buildings, hospitals, office buildings, and bank buildings, being commission for approximately 50 such buildings during the architects' long association. With the death of Edward York in 1928, the firm's "golden age" came to an end, although it continued to flourish and produce work of serious merit.

The York & Sawyer partnership was formed in 1898 by Edward Palmer York (1865-1928) and Philip Sawyer (1868-1949). York first studied architecture at Cornell University and then, in 1890, joined the prestigious firm, McKim, Mead & White, where he served as assistant to Stanford White. Sawyer first trained in civil engineering and then attended Columbia

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property Brooklyn Trust Company Building

County and State Kings County, New York

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8

Page 4

University's School of Architecture. He then worked briefly for McKim, Mead & White in 1891 (where he likely first met York). Sawyer then went to Paris to attend the Ecole des Beaux-Arts which, at that time, was considered an essential experience for any young architect who could afford the school. Sawyer traveled throughout Europe, studying and sketching architectural monuments, especially those of classical antiquity. By 1894, he had returned to New York and rejoined McKim, Mead & White.

At that time, McKim, Mead & White was at its zenith. Having just participated in the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, the firm had become famous and was the most influential proponent of the Classical Revival style—coined by many later architectural writers and historians Academic Classicism. Years later Sawyer assessed his training at McKim, Mead & White in the 1890s as the best training in America, in terms of planning, design and construction, experience, and criticism. While working at McKim, Mead & White, the architects' roles were established—York worked at a desk and Sawyer worked at a drafting table. This division of duties was similar to that of Mead and White—Mead handled client relations and project management while White dealt primarily with design. When York and Sawyer established their own partnership in 1898, they emulated these separate roles. York was, in the broadest sense, the businessman and Sawyer was the designer. Yet they both seem to have contributed to the other's field of expertise.

York & Sawyer's first bank commission—for the Franklin Savings Bank (1899, West 42nd Street and Eighth Avenue [demolished])—inaugurated the firm's long association with bank design. York may have used his influence and contacts from his days at McKim, Mead & White to garner the young firm's initial bank commissions. For example, Governor Levi P. Morton, who recommended the firm to the Franklin Savings Bank, was a client of McKim, Mead & White. By 1909 Sawyer had been appointed an architecture consultant to the U.S. Treasury Department, and supervised the rebuilding of the Treasury in Washington, DC, as well as other construction of sub-treasuries in other cities. In 1911, the department sent Sawyer to Europe with letters of introduction to bank officers at the federal banks of England, Italy, and Germany in order to study their methods of handling and storing money. By that time, York and Sawyer had already designed a number of bank buildings. Such credentials likely impressed the Brooklyn Trust Company officers.

York & Sawyer were experts of Academic Classicism, the architectural style favored for banks at that time. Architecture critic and longtime champion of the style, Henry Hope Reed, has noted that the firm had an "unusual grasp of the monumental," "the striking visual effect," and handling of rustication—qualities all fully realized in the Brooklyn Trust Company building.⁸

DESIGN OF THE BROOKLYN TRUST COMPANY BUILDING

When the architecture firm of York & Sawyer was commissioned in 1913 by the officers of the Brooklyn Trust Company to design a new building to replace the bank's outmoded building with a new headquarters building, the architects evidently suggested a building modeled after an Italian High Renaissance *palazzo*. The style, building type, and architectural symbolism were all appropriate to the design for a bank building. The Italian Renaissance was, to a large extent, based on large banking fortunes—the Florentine house of the Medici perhaps the best known—and many great Italian banks were housed in *palazzo*. Verona was another Italian city that experienced significant financial and commercial prosperity during the Renaissance; it was to the architecture of the High Renaissance Veronese architect Michele Sanmicheli (circa 1484/1485-1559) that York & Sawyer turned for inspiration.

⁸ Reed as cited in Goeschel (LP-1905), p. 4.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Brooklyn Trust Company Building**

County and State **Kings County, New York**

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 8

Page 5

Sanmicheli's use of rusticated stone, especially in city gates and *palazzo*, may have been of special interest to Sawyer who was characterized as a "master of rustication". Sawyer may have been influenced by such buildings as Sanmicheli's Palazzo Bevilacqua in Verona, Italy. Another prototype for the Brooklyn Trust Company building's design is Palazzo della Gran Guardia, also in Verona, Italy. The bank building's Clinton Street façade exhibits strong similarities.

The Brooklyn Trust Company building occupies a corner site with facades along the three adjacent streets. It establishes a striking and impressive appearance from these streets, while providing a suitable introduction to the serious business of banking. The Academic Classic style, as implemented by York & Sawyer in the bank building's design, is not merely a regrouping of historic, stylistic, and symbolic references, but is also an entirely contemporary expression. The Brooklyn Trust Company is a quintessential image of its place, time, and function.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property **Brooklyn Trust Company Building**

County and State **Kings County, New York**

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number 9

Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Bank Notes." *New York Times*, March 17, 1953, p. 43.

"The Brooklyn Club." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, November 27, 1865, p. 2.

Goeschel, Nancy J. [Landmarks Consultant] *New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission Designation Report: Brooklyn Trust Company (now Chemical Bank) Building, 177-179 Montague Street and 134-138 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn (Designation List 271, LP-1905)*. June 25, 1996.

Goeschel, Nancy J. [Landmarks Consultant] *New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission Designation Report: Brooklyn Trust Company (now Chemical Bank) Building, 177-179 Montague Street and 134-138 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn (Designation List 271, LP-1906)*. June 25, 1996.

"The Heights of Long Ago." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, April 6, 1890, p. 18.

"Merger of Borough's Two Oldest, Largest Banks Awes Brooklynites." *New York Amsterdam News*, September 9, 1950, pp. B1, B3.

"Old School Girl Days." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, November 20, 1887, p. 6.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.3 Acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>585,161</u> Easting	<u>4,505,341</u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	5	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	6	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)
Brooklyn Savings Bank is located on Brooklyn Block 244, Lot 17 (see attached Sanborn map). The 0.3 acre lot is bounded by Montague Street to the south, Clinton street to the west, Pierrepont Street to the north, and the adjacent property to the east.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)
The bank building occupies the entire lot on which it is situated.

11. Form Prepared By _____ (Editor/Contact: Kathy Howe, NY SHPO, 518-237-8643, ext. 3266)

name/title Nathan Riddle, Jennifer Morris, and Amy Crader
organization AKRF, Inc. date April 10, 2009
street & number 440 Park Avenue South telephone 646.388.8765
city or town New York state NY zip code 10016
e-mail nriddle@akrf.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Brooklyn Trust Company, 177 Montague Street

City or Vicinity: New York

County: Kings **State:** New York

Photographer: Nathan J. Riddle

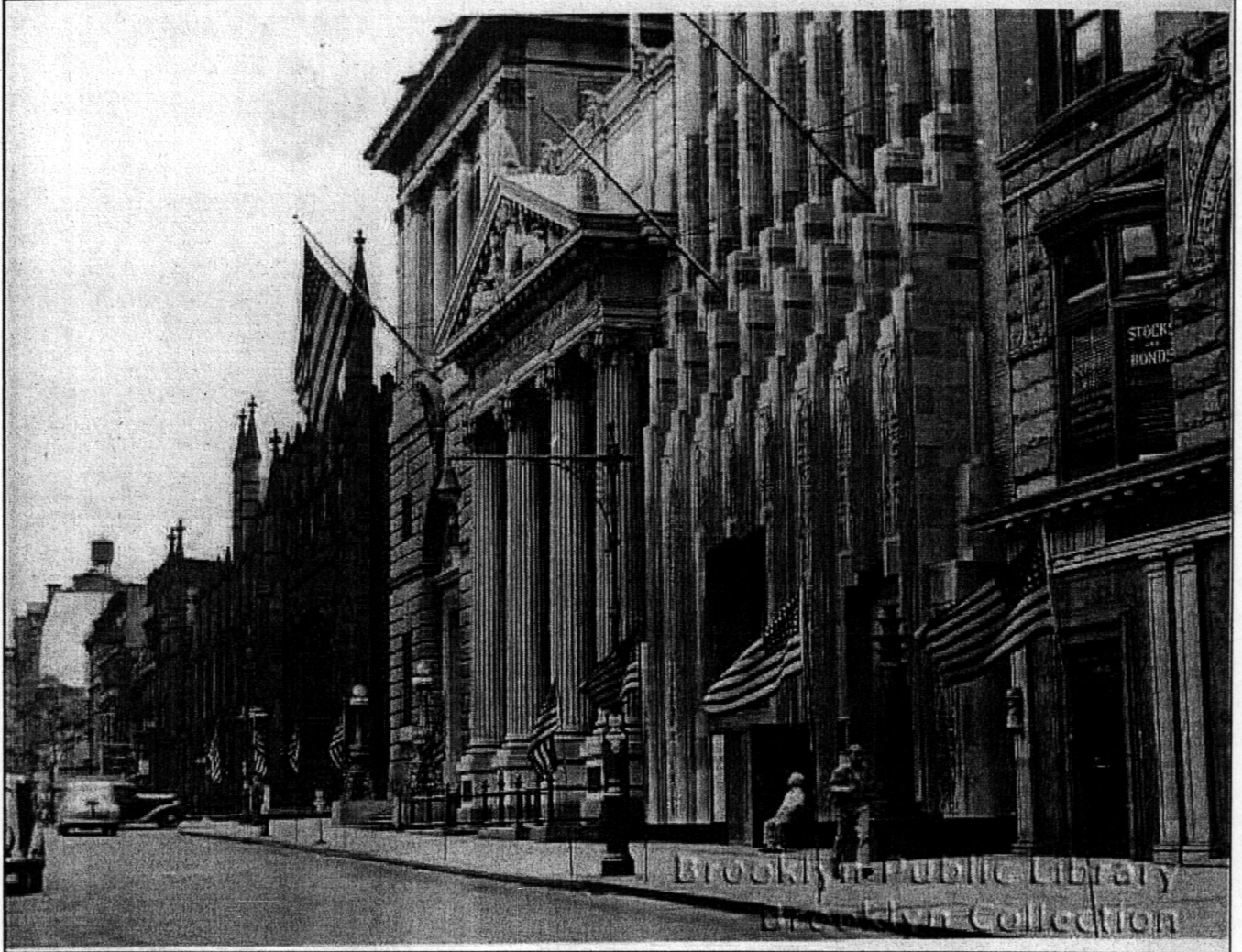
Date Photographed: April 2, 2009

CD-R on file with images in .TIF at NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Waterford, NY

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1. Montague Street façade, looking north
2. Montague Street façade, entrance detail, looking north
3. Pierrepont Street façade, view looking southeast from Clinton Street
4. Clinton Street façade, view looking south from corner of Pierrepont Street
5. Clinton Street façade, detail of the colonnade on the upper floors, looking east
6. Building exterior, southeast corner of the cornice on Montague Street, looking north
7. Roof on the southern half of the building, looking northwest.
8. Banking Hall, view north
9. Banking Hall, view south
10. Banking Hall, south wall detail
11. Banking Hall, view south to the Montague Street entrance vestibule
12. Montague Street entrance vestibule, view of the ceiling
13. Banking hall, detail of the ceiling and wall at the hall's northeast corner
14. Banking Hall, ceiling detail of a chandelier connection
15. Banking Hall chandelier
16. Foyer/administrator space to the main office on the banking hall floor
17. Main office on the banking hall floor
18. Main office on the banking hall floor, detail of wood paneling and a doorway
19. Northwest corner office on the banking hall floor, fireplace
20. Northwest corner office on the banking hall floor, view of the ceiling
21. Basement level, stairs to the banking hall
22. Basement level, view from inside the vault area back to the security gate and stairs to the banking hall
23. Fifth floor, view down the office area hallway
24. Fourth floor, conference room
25. Fourth floor, conference room windows

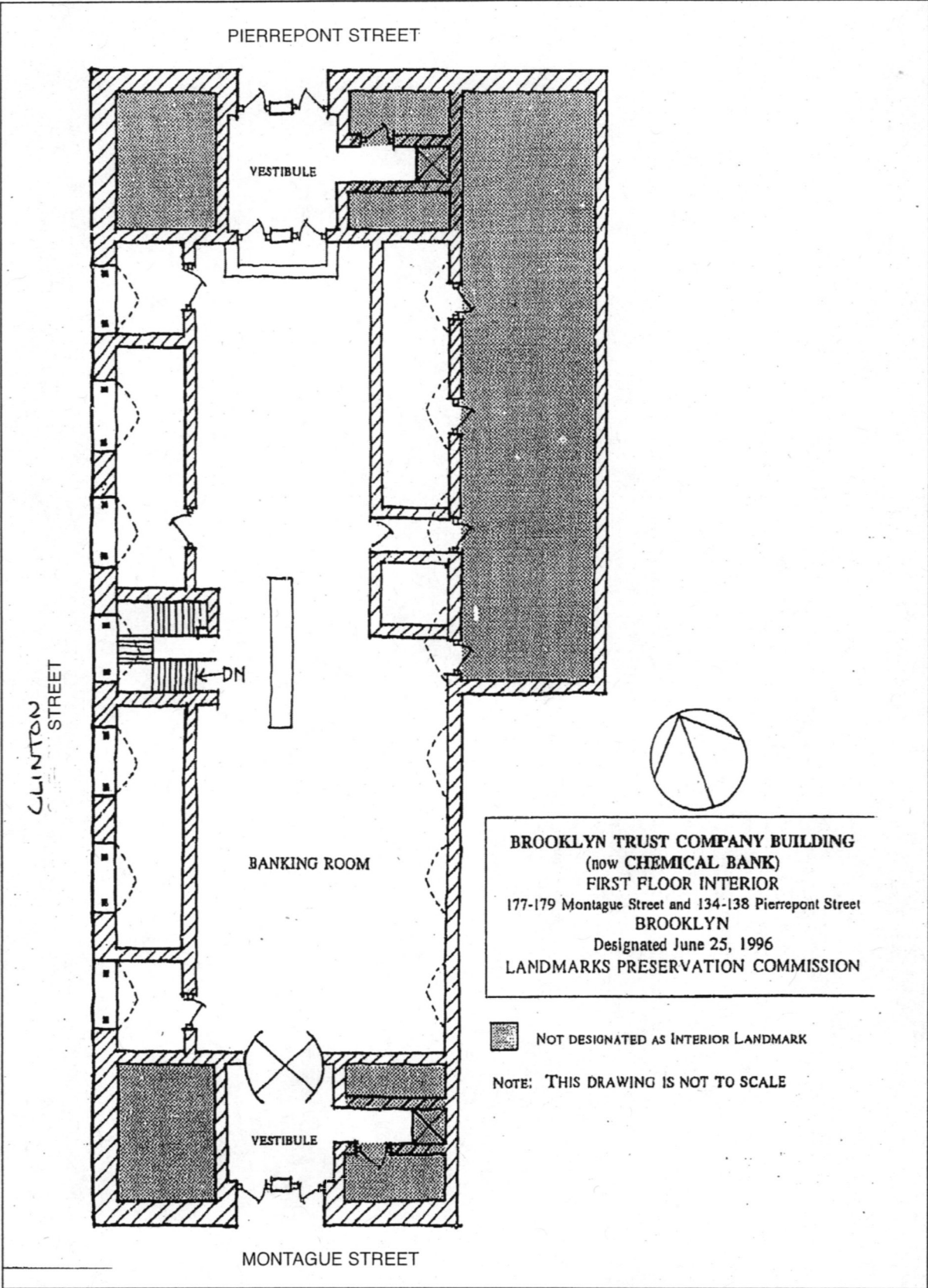
4.9.09



SOURCE: Brooklyn Public Library

177 MONTAGUE STREET

Former Brooklyn Trust Company Building, 1944



Former Brooklyn Trust Company Building
Interior Floor Plan



Project Site Boundary

0 200 FEET
SCALE

Former Brooklyn Trust Company Building
177 Montague Street
Brooklyn, New York

177 MONTAGUE STREET

Sanborn Map, 2009

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Brooklyn Trust Company Building

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Kings

DATE RECEIVED: 7/08/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/27/09
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/11/09 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/21/09
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000632

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8.20.09 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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.



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 1



177

177

CHASE

24 HOUR ATM
60' SECURE BY

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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 2



CHASE

W 10th St
W 11th St

P



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Brooklyn Trust Company
127 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 3



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 4



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 5



GREENPOINT
FLATBVSH
WALLABOVT

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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 6



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 7



WaMu

WELCOME
WaMu
CUSTOMERS

We're here to help

IT'S
CHECK
OUT
HERE

WaMu

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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 8



Savings

1.75%^{APR}

2.50%^{APR}

Home Loans

5.125%

5.203%

Investments

Offered through Chase Investment Services Corp.

• Mutual Funds • Annuities


• IRAs • 529 Plans

Make us an Investment Representative

IT'S
C
P
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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 9



COMMERCE
DEFIES EVERY WIND
OUTRIDES EVERY
TEMPEST AND IN
VADES EVERY ZONE

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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 10

OUTRIDES EVERY
TEMPEST AND IN
VADES EVERY ZONE

EXIT

BETTER RATES

Savings

1,750	2,500
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Home Loans

1,000	5,000
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Investments

HIGH SCHOOL CHECKING



Can Bank

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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph U



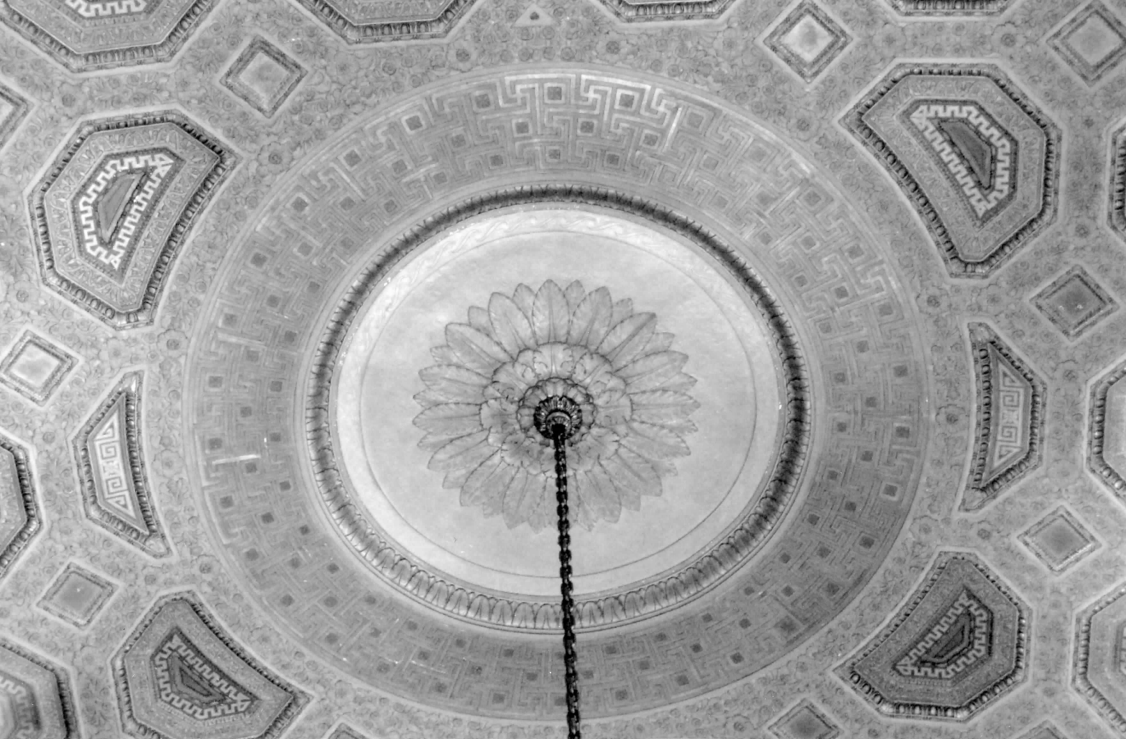
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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 12



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177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 13



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Photograph 14



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Photograph 15



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, New York
Photograph 16



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
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Photograph 17



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Photograph 18



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Photograph 19



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Kings County, NY
Photograph 20



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Kings County, NY
Photograph 21



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 22



EXIT

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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 23



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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 24

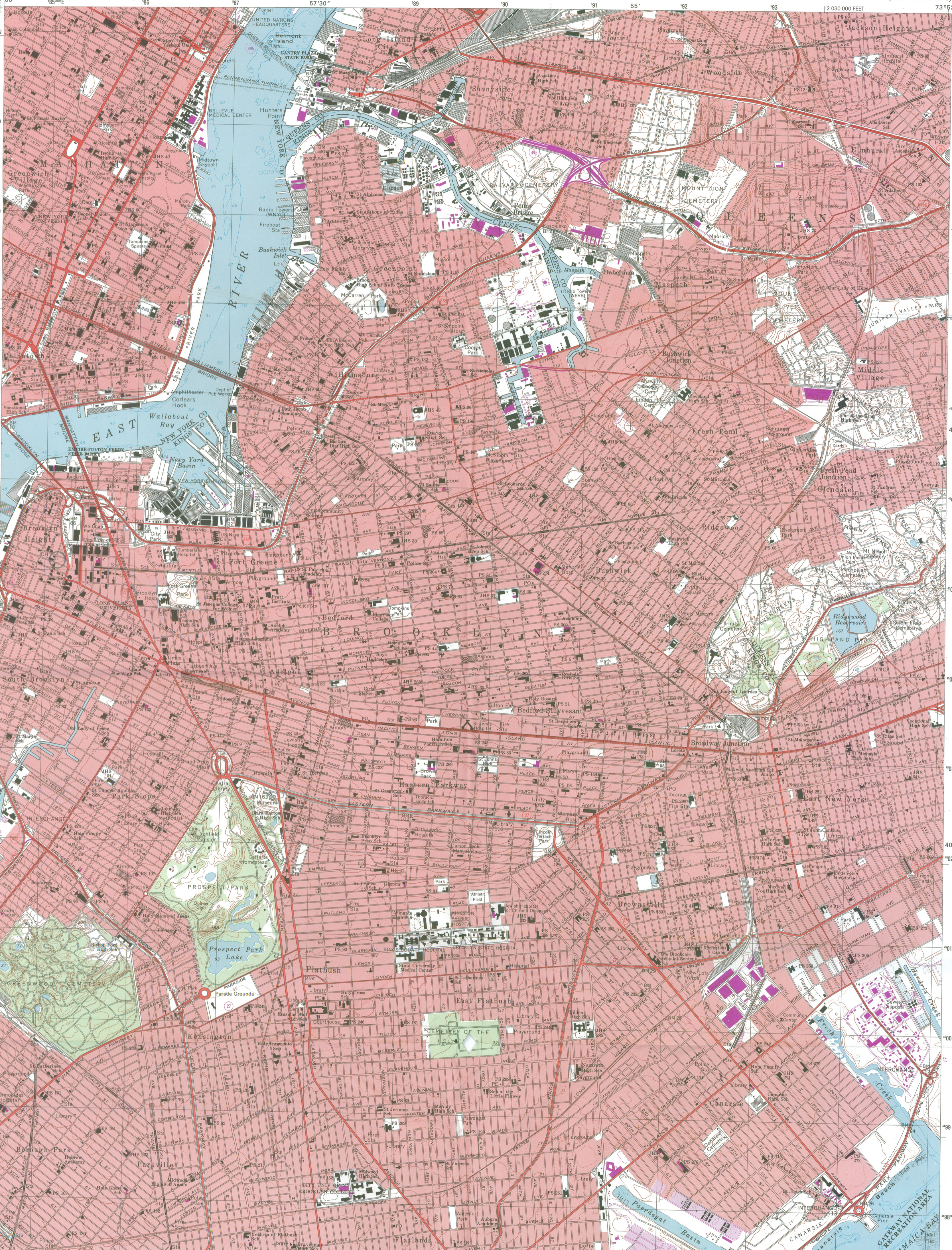


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Brooklyn Trust Company
177 Montague Street
Kings County, NY
Photograph 25



Brooklyn Trust
Company Building
177 Montague St
Brooklyn, Kings Co.
NY
Zone: 18
Easting: 585161
Northing: 4505341
USGS Topo-
Brooklyn Quad
1:24000



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Topography compiled 1966. Primarily derived from imagery taken 1977 and other sources. Photospliced using imagery dated 1995; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1967. Boundaries, other than corporate, revised 1999. Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts 275 (1964), 542 (1967), and 745 (1966). This information is not intended for navigational purposes.
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks: New York coordinate system, Long Island zone (transverse Mercator).
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Entire area lies within New York City.
Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours.

SCALE 1:240 000

UTM GRID AND 1999 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET, DATUM IS MEAN LOWER LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 4.2 FEET IN THE EAST RIVER AND 5.2 FEET IN JAMAICA BAY

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway
hard surface
Secondary highway
hard surface

Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface

Unimproved road

Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1 2 3
4 5
6 7 8

1 Westhaven
2 Central Park
3 Flushing
4 Jersey City
5 Jamaica
6 The Narrows
7 Coney Island
8 Far Rockaway

BROOKLYN, NY
1995

NIMA 6265 III NW-SERIES V821

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

80607 920239

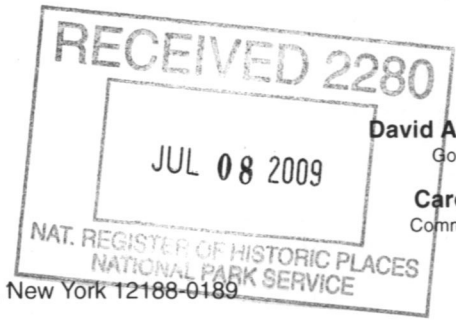


**New York State Office of Parks,
Recreation and Historic Preservation**

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

www.nysparks.com



David A. Paterson
Governor

Carol Ash
Commissioner

July 2, 2009

Ms. Alexis Abernathy
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW
8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Transmittal of National Register
Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to transmit five new National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register as follows:

Brooklyn Trust Company Building, Brooklyn, Kings Co., NY

J. Stuart Wells House, Binghamton, Broome Co., NY

Pine Grove Community Church, Lewis Co., NY

Baron von Steuben Memorial Site, Remsen, Oneida Co., NY

The Emerson, New York, New York Co., NY

Thank you for your assistance in processing these proposals. Please feel free to call on me at 518-237-8643 ext. 3258 if any questions arise.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Peckham
National Register
Program Coordinator

enclosures



The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North, New York NY 10007 TEL: 212-669-7926 FAX: 212-669-7797
<http://nyc.gov/landmarks/>



KATE DALY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
kdaly@lpc.nyc.gov

June 3, 2009

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

Re: Brooklyn Trust Company, 177-179 Montague Street, Brooklyn

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

I write on behalf of Chair Robert B. Tierney in response to your request for comment on the eligibility of the Brooklyn Trust Company at 177-179 Montague Street in Brooklyn for the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

The Commission strongly supports the nomination of the Brooklyn Trust Company. On June 25, 1996 the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission voted to designate this building as an individual New York City landmark. Designed by the firm of York & Sawyer in 1913-1916, this elegant structure was modeled on Italian Renaissance architecture. The building set a precedent for the firm's largest Renaissance banks – the Central Savings Bank and the Federal Reserve Bank – which are also individual New York City landmarks.

Therefore, based on the Commission's prior review and designation of this building, the Commission has determined that Brooklyn Trust Company appears to meet the criteria for inclusion on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Sincerely yours,

Kate Daly

cc: Robert B. Tierney, Chair
Mary Beth Betts