

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received FEB 29 1980

date entered APR 9 1980

1. Name

historic Williamsburgh Savings Bank

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 175 Broadway

___ not for publication

city, town Brooklyn

___ vicinity of

congressional district

14

state New York

code 036

county

Kings

code 047

3. Classification

Category

___ district

☒ building(s)

___ structure

___ site

___ object

Ownership

___ public

☒ private

___ both

Public Acquisition

___ in process

___ being considered

Status

☒ occupied

___ unoccupied

___ work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted

___ yes: unrestricted

___ no

Present Use

___ agriculture

☒ commercial

___ educational

___ entertainment

___ government

___ industrial

___ military

___ museum

___ park

___ private residence

___ religious

___ scientific

___ transportation

___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Salvatore Randazzo, Vice-President and Assistant Secretary

street & number 175 Broadway, Williamsburgh Savings Bank

city, town Brooklyn

___ vicinity of

state

New York

11211

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. King's County Register's Office

street & number Municipal Building, 210 Joralemon Street

city, town Brooklyn

state

New York

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Landmarks Preservation Commission

title LP-0164

has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ☒ no

date May 17, 1966

___ federal ___ state ___ county ☒ local

depository for survey records Landmarks Preservation Commission, 305 Broadway

city, town New York

state

New York

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☒ original site
☒ good	☐ ruins	☒ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Situated on a large corner lot, this four-story Classical Revival style bank of limestone, sandstone and marble contains a wealth of architectural detail and ornament.¹ Extremely beautiful bronze candelabra stand on large bases flanking a short flight of stairs which lead up to the main entrance. The deeply recessed entrance is framed by a two-story arch formed by giant piers with paired Ionic pilasters which support an entablature and pediment. The arch is repeated at the secondary Broadway entrance and again on the Driggs Avenue facade. Two massive bronze doors with classical decoration form the main entrance.

A low attic story is located above the entablature and a monumental cast-iron dome with a lantern crowns the building. An ornately decorated cast-iron railing extending around the building at street level completes this impressive composition.

Significant interior features include clustered marble pilasters with Corinthian capitals, an organic frieze and architrave, and classical plaster moldings above the entrances to the president's, clerks', and cashiers' offices. The president's office retains the original wood carving above the doorways, windows and fireplace. The main banking room is surmounted by a gigantic dome on pendentives which is ornamented with mosaic decoration.

There have been three extensions to the original building. The first was designed by Helmle, Huberty & Hudswell c. 1910² to create a second banking room which features the same detailing as the main room but has a shallow coffered dome. In 1923 a small glass-covered extension was added to the rear of the building, and in 1941 a third extension was added to the side of the building to provide staff services.

The nominated site extends to the curblineline to include the sidewalk. On the Broadway side the original sidewalk, consisting of stone blocks with grooves, runs from the corner to the 1941 addition. The remainder of the sidewalk on Broadway and on the Driggs Avenue side is old but less intact.

¹The text of this report was taken almost in its entirety from the New York Landmarks Commission Designation Reports, Williamsburgh Savings Bank (LP-0164), May 17, 1966 and Williamsburgh Savings Bank (LP-0971), by James T. Dillon, November 15, 1977.

²Research reveals conflicting dates for the construction of the second banking room. Building department records are inconclusive, showing both 1903 and 1909 as possible dates. The attached map shows 1906 while a plaque in the second room reads 1910. It seems probable that construction began in 1909 and that the room was dedicated in 1910.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1875 Builder/Architect George B. Post

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Williamsburgh Savings Bank, an imposing building rich in architectural details, is an excellent example of that Classical Revival architecture which preceded the Chicago Fair of 1893. This distinguished structure has served the banking needs of its community for over one hundred years and continues to do so.

Incorporated by an act of the New York State Legislature on April 9, 1851, the Williamsburgh Savings Bank opened for business two months later in the basement of All Souls Universalist Church on the corner of Bedford Avenue and South 3rd Street. Three years later it moved from these rented quarters to its own handsome Italianate building across the street. By 1867, the bank's business had outgrown the South 3rd Street building and the trustees began to search for a suitable location for larger facilities. The northwest corner of Driggs Avenue and Broadway in the commercial center of Williamsburgh was the site selected for the new building. An architectural competition was held and the winning design was submitted by George B. Post. The impressive Classical Revival style structure, with a striking cast-iron dome, is one of Post's earliest works; he later went on to design such notable buildings as the Long Island Historical Society (1878–80), the New York Stock Exchange (1903), and the College of the City of New York (1902–11).

9. Major Bibliographical References

A more complete bibliography may be found in the New York City Landmarks Preservation Research file: Williamsburgh Savings Bank

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Brooklyn, N.Y.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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5	8	7	7	0	0
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4	5	0	6	8	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property occupies Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2457, Lots 28 and 34.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

Contact: Elizabeth Spencer-Ralph
518-474-0479

Luella Boddewyn, Landmarks Preservation Specialist for
name/title Joan R. Olshansky, National Register Coordinator

organization Landmarks Preservation Commission date Sept. 28, 1979

street & number 305 Broadway telephone (212) 566-7577

city or town New York state New York 10007

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

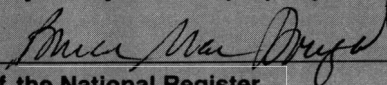
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

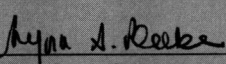
title Director, Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau date 2/22/80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for 
Keeper of the National Register

date April 9, 1980

Attest: 
Chief of Registration

date April 9, 1980

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 29 1980
DATE ENTERED

APR 9 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Williamsburgh
CONTINUATION SHEET Savings Bank ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Weisman, Winston. "The Commercial Architecture of George B. Post."
Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, 31
(October 1972), 176-203.

Landmarks Preservation Commission. Williamsburgh Savings Bank
Designation Report (LP-0164). New York: City of New York,
1966.

Landmarks Preservation Commission. Williamsburgh Savings Bank
Designation Report (LP-0971) by James T. Dillon,
New York: City of New York, 1977.

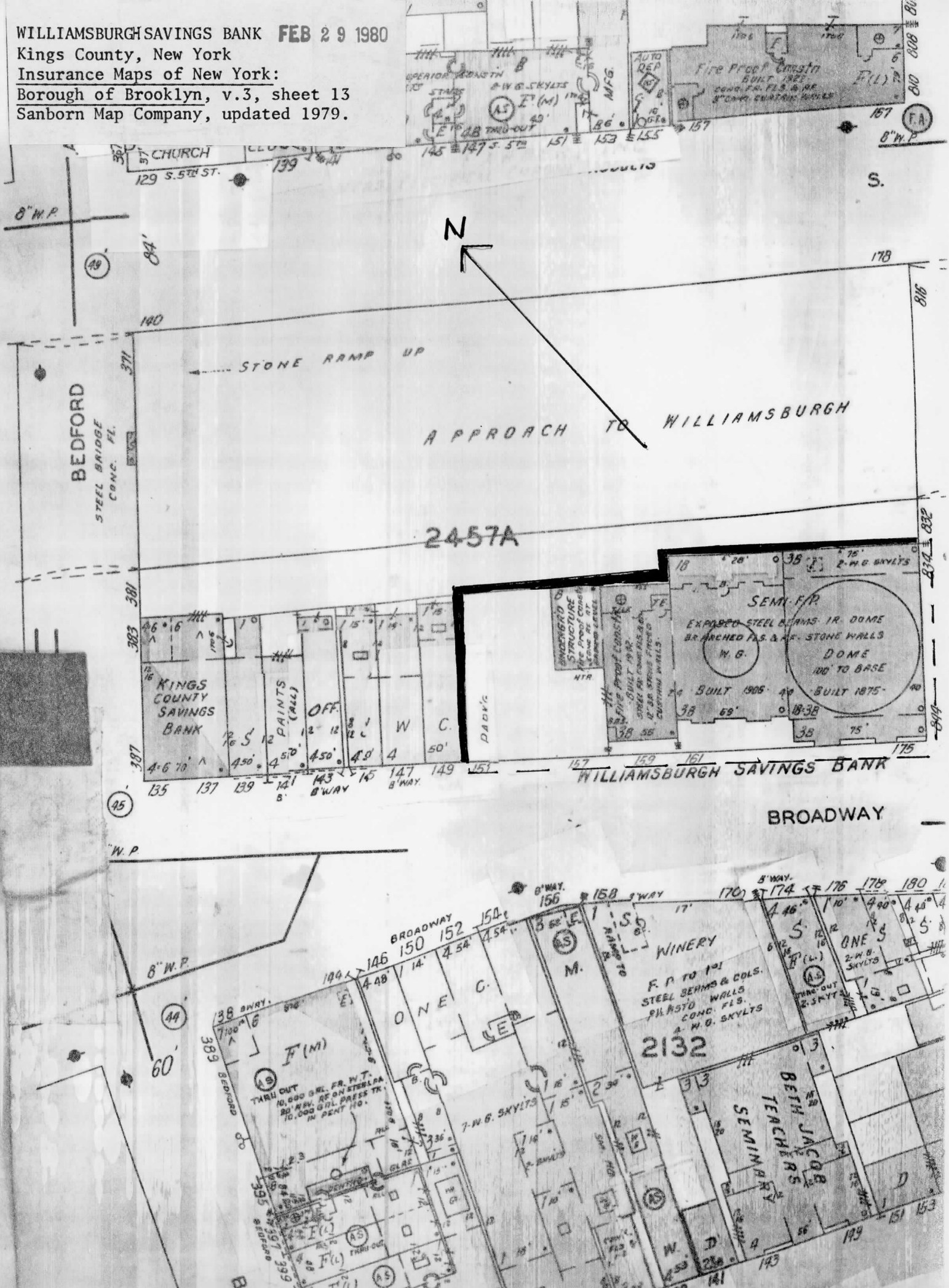
WILLIAMSBURGH SAVINGS BANK FEB 29 1980

Kings County, New York

Insurance Maps of New York:

Borough of Brooklyn, v.3, sheet 13

Sanborn Map Company, updated 1979.





W

Apr 9 1980

Property

Williamburgh Savings Bank

80002642

State

Ny-Kings

Working Number

2-29-80 712

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 5

Maps 2

HISTORIAN

Architecturally significant as an expression of ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
the ornate classical ~~architecture~~ emerging from
the École des Beaux Arts during the second half of the 19th c.
Possesses considerable integrity of exterior + interior. An
example of neoclassicism upholding the peak of the Beaux Arts
style

Accept
L. Blake
4/9/80

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
L. Blake
4/9/80

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered APR 9/1980

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____



FEB 29 1980

1 Williamsburgh Savings Bank
175 Broadway
Brooklyn, *Kings County*
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo
Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission
view from south

11/79

APR 9 1980

1085



FEB 29 1980

2. Williamsburgh Savings Bank

175 Broadway

Brooklyn, *Kings County*

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks

Preservation Commission

view from southwest

11/79

20fs

APR 9 1980



FEB 29 1980

3. Williamsburgh Savings Bank

175 Broadway

Brooklyn, *Kings County*

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo

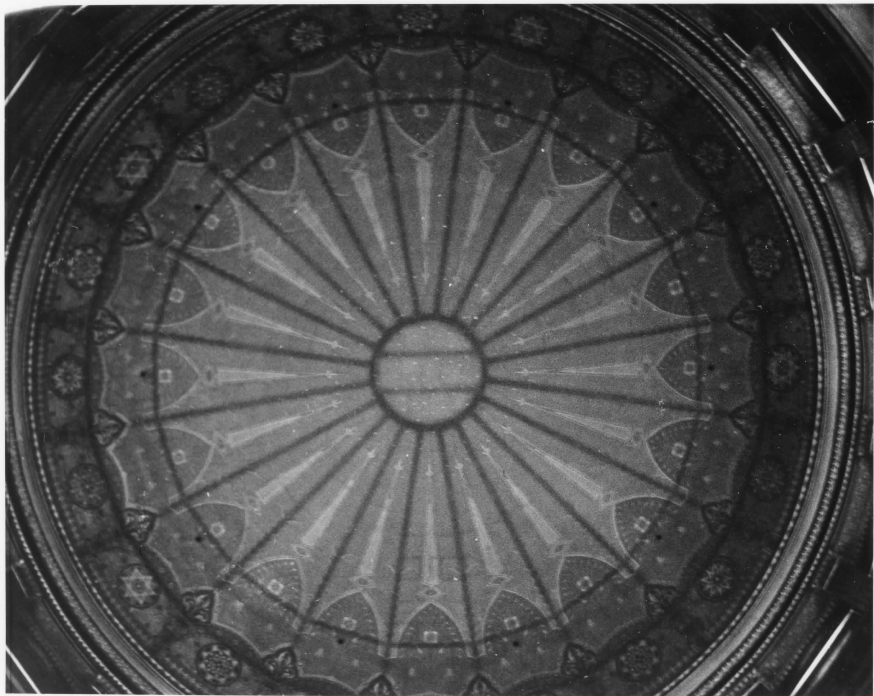
Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission

view of northeast corner on interior
11/79

3 of 5

APR

9 1980



APR 9 1980

FEB 29 1980

4. Williamsburgh Savings Bank
175 Broadway

Brooklyn, *Kings County*

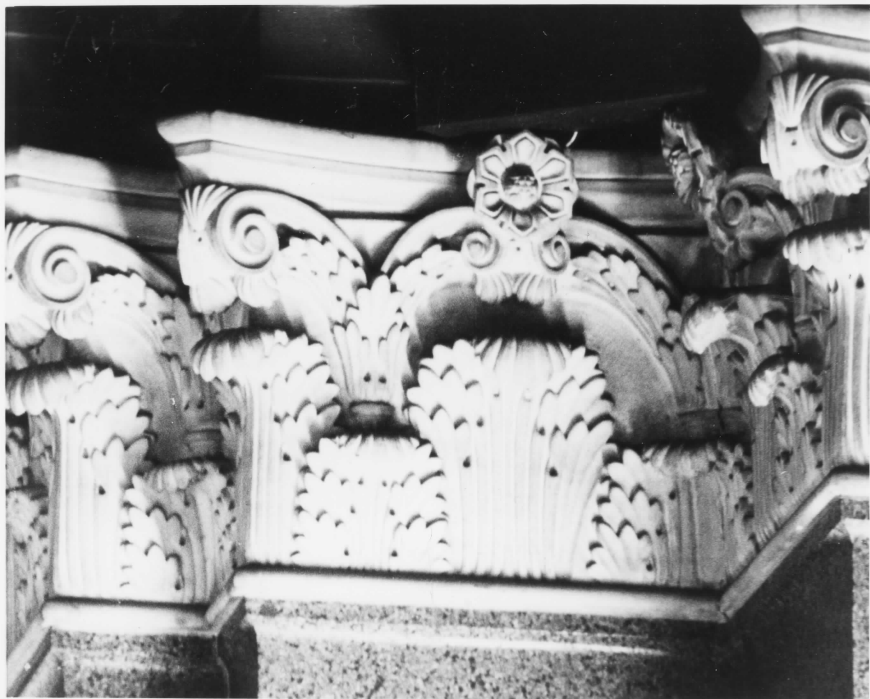
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission

view of interior of dome

11/79

4085



APR 9 1980

FEB 29 1980

5. Williamsburgh Savings Bank
175 Broadway
Brooklyn, *Kings County*

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission

detail of pilaster capital

11/79

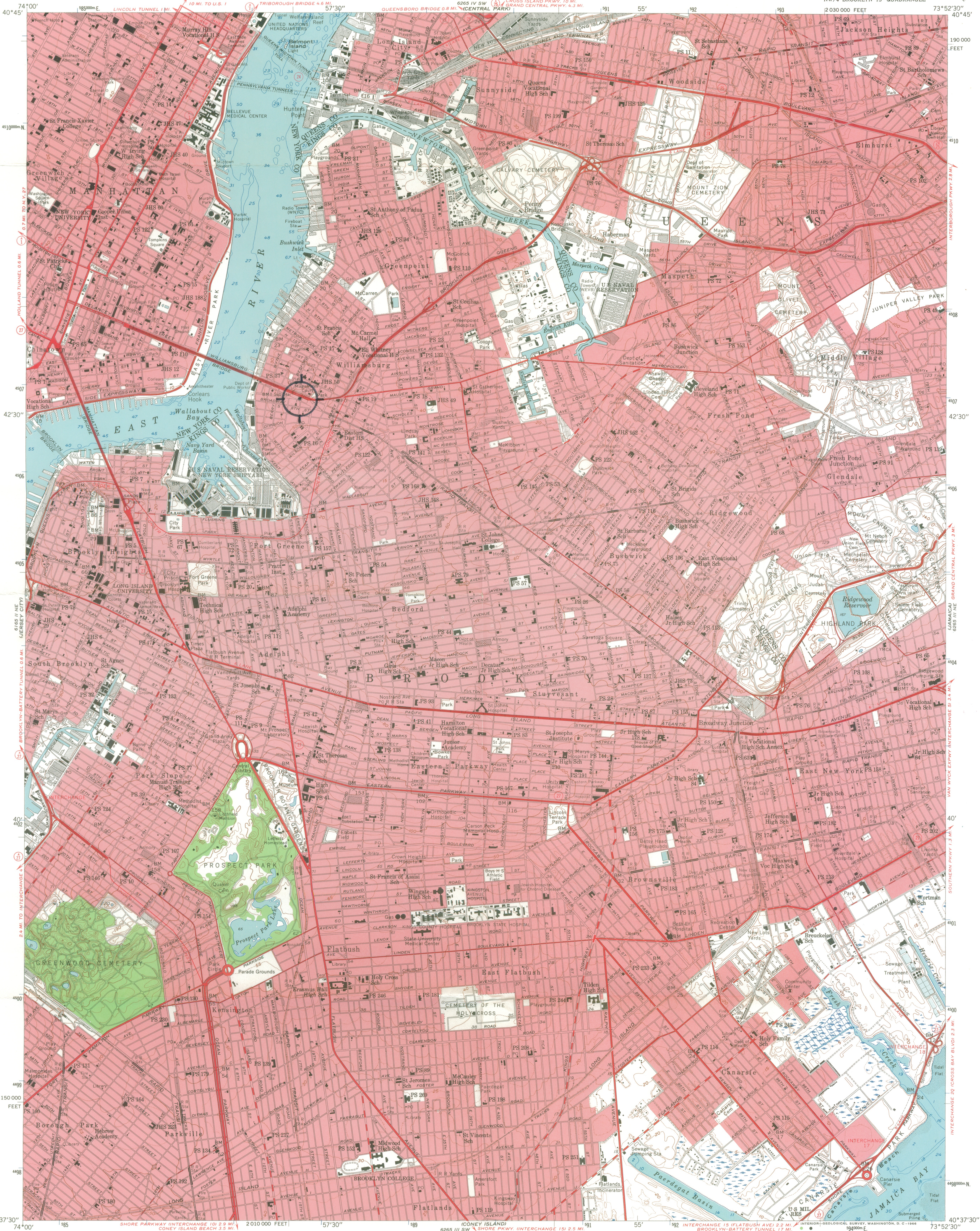
3075

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

BROOKLYN QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 BROOKLYN 15' QUADRANGLE

WILLIAMSBURG SAVINGS BANK
Brooklyn, Kings County, New York
UTM Reference:
18/ 587700/ 450680

Brooklyn Quad



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USC&GS, USCE, and City of New York Board of Estimate and Apportionment
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1954, and from USC&GS charts T-5094, T-5335, T-5454, T-5459, T-5460, and T-8449
Topography by planimetric surveys 1955-1956
Hydrography compiled from USC&GS charts 542 (1955) and 745 (1956)
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New York coordinate system, Long Island zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Entire area lies within New York City



DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 4.2 FEET IN THE EAST AND 5.2 FEET IN JAMAICA BAY
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
State Route ———



BROOKLYN, N. Y.
NW/4 BROOKLYN 15' QUADRANGLE
N4037.5-W7352.5/7.5
1956
AMS 6265 III NW-SERIES V821



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered APR 9 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
St. Monica's Church	Jamaica Queens County
Williamsburgh Savings Bank	Brooklyn Kings County
New Utrecht Reformed Church and Buildings	Brooklyn Kings County
Bowling Green Fence and Park	New York New York County
Sea and Land Church	New York New York County
St. Thomas Church and Parish House	New York New York County
Marble Collegiate Reformed Church	New York New York County

Also Notified

Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan

Honorable Jacob K. Javits
Honorable Joseph P. Addabbo
Honorable Frederick W. Richmond
Honorable Leo C. Zeferetti
Honorable John M. Murphy
Honorable S. William Green

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Orin Lehman
Commissioner
Parks and Recreation
Agency Building #1
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12238

NR

Byers/bjr 4/16/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

Harrison 5/30

436

JUN 2 1980

Mr. Jeffrey Raynor
Paskus Gordon & Hyman
45 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10111

Kings Co.
N.Y.

Dear Mr. Raynor:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the information you requested in the telephone conversation with National Register staff member Lynn Beebe on May 20, 1980.

The following properties located in Kings County, New York have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places between January 1, 1980 and May 23, 1980:

Floyd Bennett Field Historic District
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Hanson Place Seventh Day Adventist Church
Interborough Rapid Transit Subway Control Houses: Thematic
Resources (Bronx, Kings, and New York Counties)
Kings County Savings Bank
Monsignor McGolrick Park and Shelter Pavillion
New Utrecht Reformed Church and Buildings
Public School 19
Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Transfiguration of our Lord
St. Bartholomew's Protestant Episcopal Church and Rectory
State Street Houses
Twenty-third Regiment Armory
Williamsburgh Savings Bank ✓

If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know. We appreciate your interest in the National Register.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Shull (Sgd.)

Carol D. Shull
Acting Keeper of the National
Register

cc: Mr. Orin Lehman, SHPO, New York

bcc: S. Harrison:jrb:343-6401:5-30-80
FILE COPY