

**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 **NOV 05 1979**
date entered **JAN 3 1980**

1. Name

historic 37 East 4th Street House at

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 37 East 4th Street _____ not for publication

city, town New York _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 18

state New York code 036 county New York code 061

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Poe Kim

street & number 37 East 4th Street

city, town New York _____ vicinity of _____ state New York

5. Location of Legal Description

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

Surrogate's Court Building

street & number 31 Chambers Street

city, town New York _____ state New York

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Landmarks Preservation Commission ^{LP-0646} has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date August 1970 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records 305 Broadway

city, town New York _____ state New York 10017

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The dignified Greek Revival brick rowhouse at 37 East 4th Street is three-and-a-half stories high and three bays wide. While it is only 26 feet wide the house is unusually deep. A high stoop over a stone basement which still retains traces of rustication, leads to a handsome doorway with full entablature supported by a pair of Ionic columns, a typically Greek Revival feature. The doorway, set behind the plane of the wall with paneled reveals to create a depth of shadow, is flanked by blocked-up sidelights set between paired square pilasters. A rectangular three-paned transom surrounded by waterleaf and bead and reel molding crowns the doorway. The windows now have plain stone lintels and sills although traces of the original cap moldings remain above the third story windows. Other original features typical of the Greek Revival style include the third story six-over-six windows, low attic windows, and simple wood cornice with plain fascia. Although none of the original ironwork remains, fragments indicate that it was identical with the existing ironwork of the nearby Old Merchants House at No. 29 E. 4th Street.

The interior has been converted into apartments but much of the original woodwork remains including floors, door and window enframements and the hall stair.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1845 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The East 4th Street house is one of only two Greek Revival residences that have survived in the area, which in the 1840s was one of the most fashionable residential neighborhoods in the city. Developed between 1820 and 1840, the streets were lined with three and four-story row houses occupied by some of New York's best-known citizens including Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury under Presidents Jefferson and Madison; General Winfield Scott, hero of the Mexican War and Samuel B. Ruggles, real estate developer. Around the corner, on Lafayette Place, was William B. Astor's residence. On the west side, across that street, stood Colonnade Row, the most elegant terrace in New York. Franklin H. Delano, grandfather of Franklin Delano Roosevelt owned Number 39, and Washington Irving spent winters at number 33.¹ Also nearby was Vauxhall Gardens, a favorite summer evening resort since 1805, offering band music, theatrical performances, fireworks, cakes and ale. The area to the north was still largely undeveloped at the time the house was built. Grace Church, at Tenth Street and Broadway, was then in the process of construction. Within a few years, however, the Astor Library was erected on the east side of Lafayette Place, followed by Cooper Union, in 1857.

The house at Number 37 East 4th Street was built in 1845 for Samuel Tredwell Skidmore, a prominent businessman and cousin of Seabury Tredwell, whose house is Number 29. At the time he built the house, Skidmore was engaged in the wholesale drug business, under the firm name of Skidmore & Co. Later he served as president of the Howard Insurance Company, at 66 Wall Street, and as a trustee of the U.S. Trust Company. He served as vestryman of Trinity Church from 1874 to 1880. Together with his wife, Angelina, and their eight children, Skidmore lived in this house (known successively as No. 369, then as No. 385 Fourth Street, and finally as No. 37 East 4th Street) for almost four decades. In 1883, after Skidmore's death on November 8, 1881, his widow sold the house.

By the early twentieth century, the area had become almost entirely commercial; today 37 East 4th Street survives as a reminder of the former stylish residential area.

1. Charles Lockwood, Manhattan Moves Uptown, Boston: Houghton & Mifflin Co., 1976.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Brooklyn

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>18</u>	<u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property occupies Manhattan Tax Map Block 544, Lot 67.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

Contact, Elizabeth Spencer-Ralph, 518-474-0479, Div. for Historic Pres.
 name/title Darlene McCloud, Research Consultant for Joan R. Olshansky, National Register Coordinator

organization New York Landmarks Preservation Commission date

street & number 305 Broadway telephone 212-566-7577

city or town New York state New York

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 [Signature]

title Director, Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau date 10/29/79

For HCRS use only

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

[Signature] Carl D. Skell date 1-3-80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: [Signature] Kristin O'Connell date 1/2/80
 Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 05 1979

DATE ENTERED JAN 3 1980

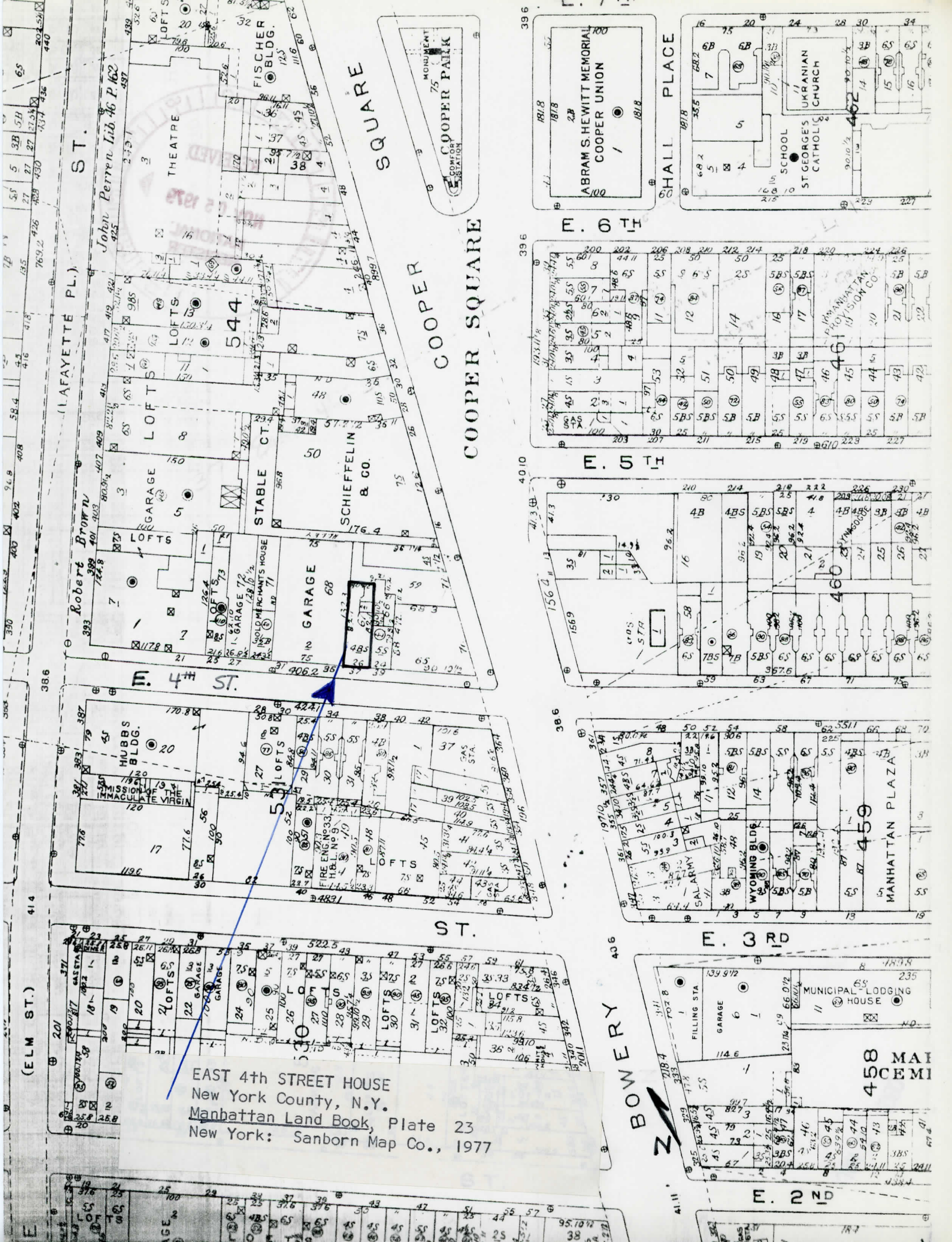
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET 37 E.4th St. Hse. ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

A more complete bibliography may be found in the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission research file: 37 East 4th Street.

Landmarks Preservation Commission East 4th Street House Designation Report (LP-0646).
New York: City of New York, 1970.

Lockwood, Charles. Manhattan Moves Uptown. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1976.



EAST 4th STREET HOUSE
 New York County, N.Y.
 Manhattan Land Book, Plate 23
 New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1977

BOWERY



(LAFAYETTE PL.)

(ELM ST.)

COOPER SQUARE

ST.

E. 3RD

E. 2ND

E. 6TH

E. 5TH

E. 4TH ST.

HALL PLACE

MANHATTAN PLAZA

ABRAM S. HEWITT MEMORIAL
COOPER UNION

SCHOOL
ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC
UKRAINIAN CHURCH

John Perren Lib. 46 P. 162

THEATRE

SQUARE

COOPER

COOPER SQUARE

SCHIEFFELIN & CO.

HUBBS BLDG.

MISSION OF THE
IMMACULATE VIRGIN

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JAN 3 1980



Property

House at 37 East 4th Street

State

NY (New York)

Working Number

11-5-79 2666

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 5

Maps 1

a 3 1/2 story Greek Revival rowhouse, built in 1845 in N.Y.'s finest residential neighborhood; HISTORIAN
the area is now nearly completely commercial and this house is one of only two surviving Greek
Revival residences that have survived in the area. there is much original interior woodwork
remaining, the entranceway is framed by an impressive pair of Ionic columns, it was built for a
prominent businessman

accept
Patrick Andrews
12/18/79

fine vestige of elegant early 19th century neighborhood - ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
near the Seabury Tredwell house, built by a cousin of
this house's owner.

Accept
O'Connell
1/2/80

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered JAN 3 1980

Federal Register Entry 2-3-81

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



PARK

THE NATIONAL
ARCHITECTURAL
FEDERATION

HITTNER
RENT A TRUCK

DAILY - LONG TERM

GR.7-6500

HITTNER
RENT A TRUCK
GR.7-6500

1. 37 East 4th Street, New York, New York.
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.
Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.
View from Southeast.

POE

NOV 05 1979

JAN 3 1980

#1/5

PAPER -
ACTURED
KODAK

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BY KODAK

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KODAK



NO PARKING IN
ACTIVE DRIVEWAYS
24 HOURS

MANUFACTURED BY KODAK THIS PAPER

MANUFACTURED BY KODAK THIS PAPER

House at

2. 37 East 4th Street, New York, ^{*county*} New York.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.

View from South. **NOV 05 1979**

JAN 3 ^{*POE*} 1980

#2075

MANUFACTURED BY KODAK THIS PAPER

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HOUSE AT

COLENTY

3. 37 East 4th Street, New York, New York.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979 .

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.

View of entrance.

NOV 05 1979

JAN 3 1980

DOE

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4. HOUSE AT
37 East 4th Street, New York, New York.
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.
Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.
Door, front parlor.

NOV 05 1979

JAN 3^{100E} 1980

40/5



House at

ROE
JAN 3 1980

5. 37 East 4th Street, New York, ^{County} New York.

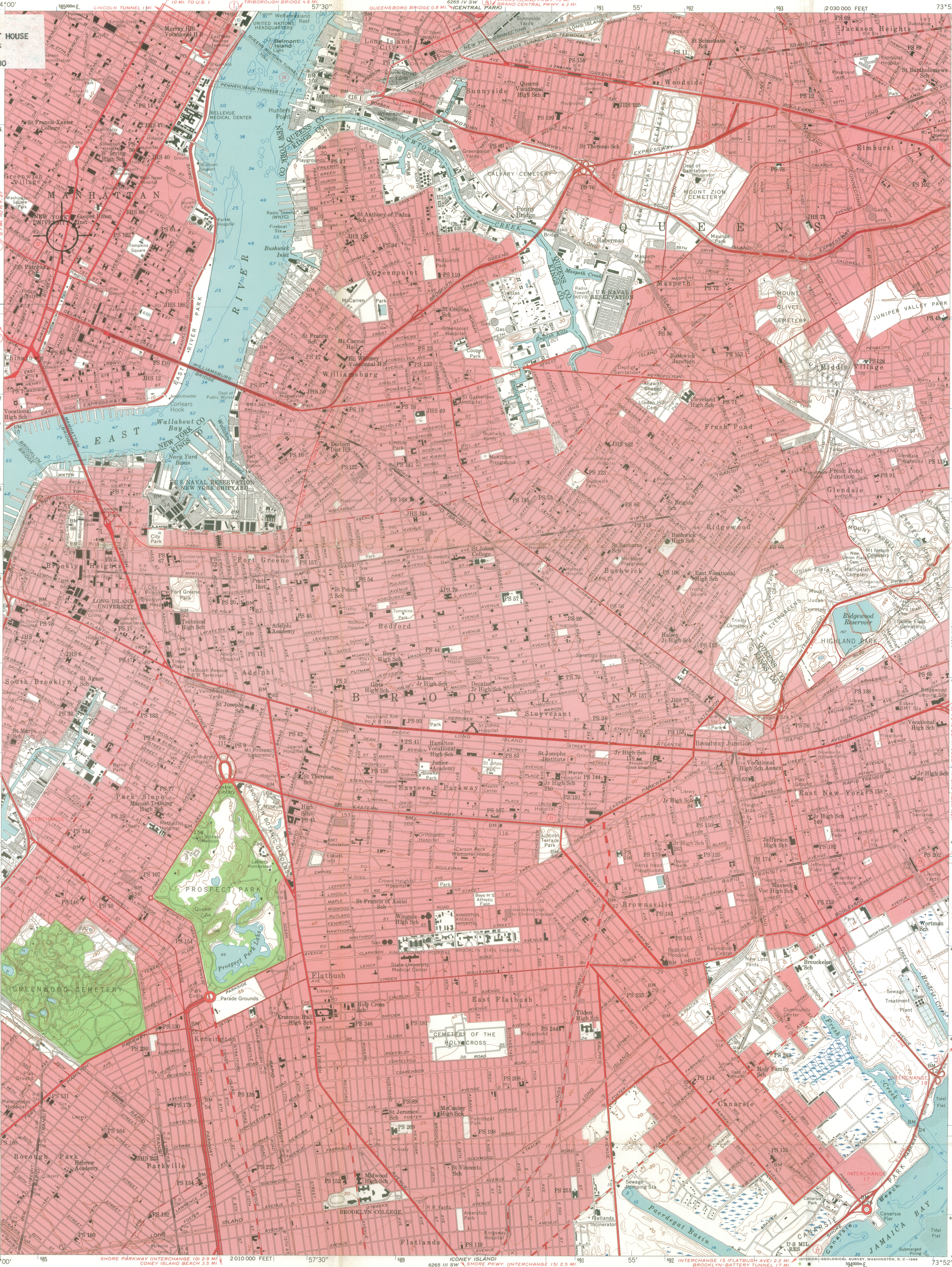
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission

Detail of cellar vaults. NOV 05 1979

50/5

37 EAST 4th STREET HOUSE
New York, New York
UTM Reference:
18/ 585100/ 4508780



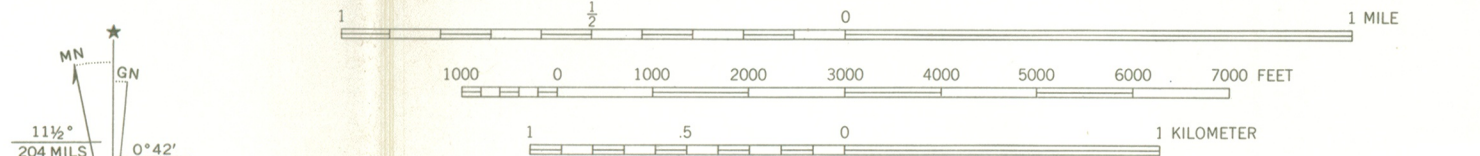
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USC&GS, USCE, and City of New York Board of
Estimate and Apportionment

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 planetable 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



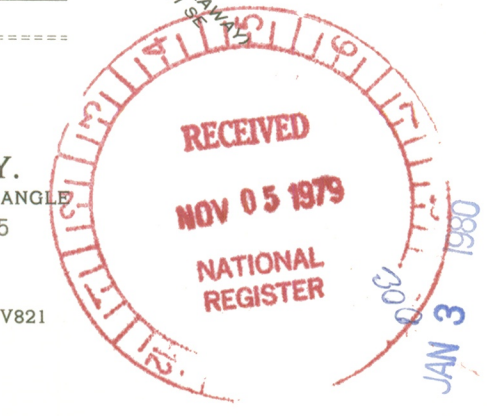
SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 4.2 FEET IN THE EAST RIVER
AND 5.2 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 7821



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered JAN 3 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
House at 37 East 4th Street	New York New York County
Association of the Bar of the City of New York	New York New York County
Park Avenue House	New York New York County
Warsaw Academy	Warsaw Wyoming County
Office of the Register	Queens Queens County

Also Notified

Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan

Honorable Jacob K. Javits
Honorable Sedgwick W. Green
Honorable Barber B. Conable, Jr.
Honorable Joseph P. Addabbo

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

NR Byers/bjr 1/14/80