

2463

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 05 1988

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

UNITED STATES POST OFFICES IN NEW YORK STATE -- 1858-1943 --
THEMATIC RESOURCES
United States Post Office, Brooklyn, Parkville Station

AND/OR COMMON

Parkville Station

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

6618 20th Avenue

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Brooklyn

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

New York

CODE
036

COUNTY

Kings

CODE

047

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

___ DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
___ STRUCTURE
___ SITE
___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
___ PRIVATE
___ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
NA IN PROCESS
NA 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 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

United States Postal Service, Northeast Region, F.R.E.B.O.

STREET & NUMBER

90 Church Street

CITY, TOWN

New York

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

NY

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City Register's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Brooklyn Municipal Building, Joralemon Street

CITY, TOWN

Brooklyn

STATE

NY

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

United States Postal Service Inventory

DATE

1982

 FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

N.Y.S. Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Albany

STATE

NY

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

Parkville Station is located at 6618 20th Avenue at the corner of 67th Street in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. The building is located in a residential neighborhood, although 20th Avenue is a modest commercial street with two- and three-story buildings with shops on the ground floor and residences above. A large school, P.S. 205, is located diagonally across 20th Avenue. To the rear of the post office, on 67th Street, is a row of brick houses. There are several synagogues in the immediate area. There is a modern addition to the post office on the north side along 20th Avenue which is considered non-contributing. The post office is built on almost its entire lot. The building retains its integrity on both the exterior and interior. The nomination includes one contributing building.

Parkville Station, originally known at Station "Y," is a two-story building with a flat roof and one-story rear wing that demarcates the location of the workroom. The facades are clad with red brick laid in common bond. The principal facade has a projecting three-bay-wide central pavilion flanked by single-bay wings, all set on a low granite base. The entrance and the windows to either side are round-arched. Each of the windows and the entrance fanlight originally had Gothic sash, but this has been replaced by windows with extremely wide mullions. Each of these arches has a modest brick surround and small limestone impost blocks and keystones. The double doors of the entrance have been replaced but the original metal lamps still flank it. The windows in the end wings and the five second-floor windows all have eight-over-eight double-hung wood sash and splayed brick lintels; the first floor windows have limestone keystones. The ends of the building and the ends of the projecting central pavilion are marked by brick quoins. A flagpole is attached to the facade above the entrance. A limestone beltcourse separates the first floor from the second floor at sill level. A second beltcourse runs above the second floor lintels. There is a simple brick parapet with the name of the post office attached in bronze letters.

The two-bay-wide side elevation on the 67th Street has rectangular windows similar to those on the front facade. One of the windows on the first floor is blind, and there is one small rectangular window. The elevation on 67th Street has six bays separated by quoin-like panels. The end bay has an arched opening that has been closed up. In the central three bays are large windows with twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood sash. A one-story wing was added to the north side of the building in the 1970's. It was designed in a manner sympathetic to the original building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Parkville Station, Brooklyn, New York
Kings County Item number 7

Page 2

The lobby contains some original features including a metal vestibule, black and beige terrazzo floor, marble baseboard, *and* plaster ceiling with beams, [REDACTED] The screenline, lighting, and lockboxes are of recent date.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

1936-7

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Carroll H. Pratt
Consulting Architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Parkville Station Post Office is architecturally significant as an intact representative example of the federal architecture erected as part of the public works projects initiated by the United States government during the Great Depression of the 1930's. The building is a simple two-story structure designed in the Colonial Revival style, which had become the accepted style for most post offices as well as for other federally sponsored public architectural projects during the 1920's and 1930's. Parkville Station, designed in 1935 and completed in 1937, is the work of consulting architect Carroll H. Pratt, one of a number of private architects hired temporarily by the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury to design post offices during the 1930's. Pratt, a Brooklyn-based architect, also designed the Inwood Station in Manhattan and possibly designed additional unattributed New York State post offices. Parkville Station exhibits characteristics that typify post office design of the 1930's including a symmetrical principal facade with central entrance, steel frame and masonry construction with brick facades, simple decoration in limestone and brick, a standardized floor plan with public lobby at the front and general high quality of construction. In addition, the building shares features in common with most New York City post offices including a two-story main block, low basement and the use of the entire lot for the building mass. The overall massing and simplified Colonial Revival style forms of the Parkville Station are repeated on Pratt's other documented post office design as well as on several other New York City postal stations that are components of the thematic nomination. These include Metropolitan Station in Brooklyn and Knickerbocker and Planetarium Stations in Manhattan.

Parkville Station is located in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. The name Parkville probably stems from the name of a real estate subdivision in the area. Bensonhurst was largely developed in the second and third decades of the twentieth century as mass transit lines were completed in the southern areas of the borough. The single-family attached and detached homes, the two-family houses, and the small apartment buildings of the area attracted a largely lower-middle-class and working-class popula-

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Institute of Architects. American Architects Directory. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1956.

Sanborn Map Company. 1929; 1929-1950.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	5,8,56,4,0	4,4,9,6,3,7,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached site map

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			

11 FORM PREPARED BY

See also continuation sheet

NAME / TITLE

Larry E. Gobrecht, National Register and Survey Coordinator

ORGANIZATION New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and DATE

Historic Preservation, Field Services Bureau

November 1986

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Empire State Plaza, Agency Building One

(518) 474-0479

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Albany

NY

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ___ NO ___ NONE ___

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State ___ Local ___

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE Judith A. Bauer

TITLE

H.P. Coordinator

DATE

5/11/88

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Alonzo Byers

Entered in the
National Register

DATE

11/17/88

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

Parkville Station, Brooklyn, New York

Continuation sheet Kings County

Item number 8

Page 2

For NPS use only

received

date entered

tion. The large increase in the population of Bensonhurst led to the need for a sizable post office in the neighborhood. Designed in 1935, Parkville Station was built in 1936-7 by Globe Building Corporation.

Parkville Station was planned as part of the extensive federal work projects undertaken in America in response to the unemployment caused by the Great Depression. Almost all of the new post offices were designed in the Colonial Revival style. Among the other Colonial Revival post offices erected during this period in Brooklyn are Kensington Station, Metropolitan Station, and Flatbush Station, all components of the thematic nomination. All of these Brooklyn buildings and most of the others built in New York City were the work of consulting architects commissioned to design the buildings by the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, headed between 1933 and 1939 by Supervising Architect Louis A. Simon. A 1930 amendment to the Public Buildings Act of 1926 permitted the Supervising Architect to hire outside consultants. This law was passed as an effort to alleviate unemployment among architects. The consulting architects were required to design within a framework established by the Supervising Architect's Office. It is possible that the use of Colonial Revival style forms was mandated in many cases by the Supervising Architect, or consulting architects may have chosen this style because of the association that it had with federal design.

Parkville Station is the work of consulting architect Carroll H. Pratt (1874-1958) who had worked, earlier in his career, in the Prospect Park South Historic District (NR listed). Pratt served as president of the American Institute of Architects and at various times in his career was associated with the prominent architectural firms of Cross & Cross and York & Sawyer. Pratt appears to have specialized in the design of banks and hospitals. During World War I, he was an architect for the Emergency Fleet Housing Corporation of the United States Shipping Board, which was responsible for the design of planned garden suburbs. Pratt was one of 21 architects in private practice hired for the temporary staff of the Office of the Supervising Architect during the expanded public buildings programs of the 1930's. Between 1934 and 1937 he worked for the office, during which time he was known to have designed Parkville Station and Inwood Station (1935-7) in Manhattan (included in thematic nomination).

Parkville Station is a simple, but handsome, building designed in the Colonial Revival style. Although it had appeared in federal design before 1920, the Colonial Revival, with its association with America's early history, became the most popular

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

Parkville Station, Brooklyn, New York

Continuation sheet Kings County

Item number 8

Page 3

For NPS use only
received
date entered

style for post offices in the 1920's and 1930's. (The earliest Colonial Revival style post office in New York State is Geneva, built in 1905-06 and included in this nomination.) For the post offices, Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival style forms were adapted for use on buildings serving twentieth-century needs. Details, such as fanlights, transoms, multi-paned windows, classical columns, eagles, cupolas, etc., were arranged in a manner suggestive of eighteenth and early nineteenth century architecture without being imitative of a particular Colonial-era building. (The exceptions to this are the post offices in Rhinebeck, Poughkeepsie, Hyde Park, and Wappingers Falls; see the cover document and their respective nominations.) Among the Colonial Revival style features of Parkville Station are the brick quoins, round-arched windows, and splayed lintels with keystones.

The same basic form of Parkville Station, with its three-bay-wide projecting central section, arched principal openings and two-story main block, can be seen on several other postal stations in New York City including Metropolitan Station in Brooklyn (1936-7), Knickerbocker Station in Manhattan (1935-7) and Planetarium Station in Manhattan (1936). Pratt's other post office, Inwood Station, is basically a one-story version of the Parkville design.

The interior of the post office is laid out in a utilitarian manner with no ceremonial spaces. The public lobby, where postal business is transacted, is rectangular. It is entered through a vestibule and there is a large workroom to the rear. The lobby retains simple detailing in marble, metal, plaster, and terrazzo.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Parkville Station Post Office, Brooklyn, New York

Continuation sheet

Kings County

Item number

11

Page 2

Research and documentation prepared by:

Peter D. Shaver, Consultant
132 Second Street
Troy, NY 12180

Edith A. Connor, Consultant
5 Waverly Place
Albany, NY 12203

Andrew Dolkart, Consultant
201 West 92nd Street -- 3F
New York, NY 10025

Beyer, Blinder, Belle, Consultant
41 E. 11th
New York, NY 10003

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY US Post Office--Parkville Station
NAME:

MULTIPLE US Post Offices in New York State, 1858-1943, TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Kings

DATE RECEIVED: 10/05/88 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/18/88
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/03/88 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/19/88
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 88002463

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11/17/88 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



UNITED STATES POST OFFICES IN NEW
YORK STATE -- 1858-1943 -- THEMATIC
RESOURCES

PHOTO: BEYER, BLINDER, BELLE
NEG: DIV. FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK

PARKVILLE STATION

6618 20TH AVENUE, BROOKLYN
KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK

DATE: 1982

VIEW: MAIN FACADE FACING NORTHEAST
1 OF 3

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE
PARKVILLE STATION - BROOKLYN, N. Y.



UNITED STATES POST OFFICES IN NEW
YORK STATE -- 1858-1943 -- THEMATIC
RESOURCES

PHOTO: BEYER, BLINDER, BELLE
NEG: DIV. FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK

PARKVILLE STATION
6618 20TH AVENUE, BROOKLYN
KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK
DATE: 1982
VIEW: MAIN ENTRANCE
2 OF 3



UNITED STATES POST OFFICES IN NEW
YORK STATE -- 1858-1943 -- THEMATIC
RESOURCES

PHOTO: BEYER, BLINDER, BELLE
NEG: DIV. FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK

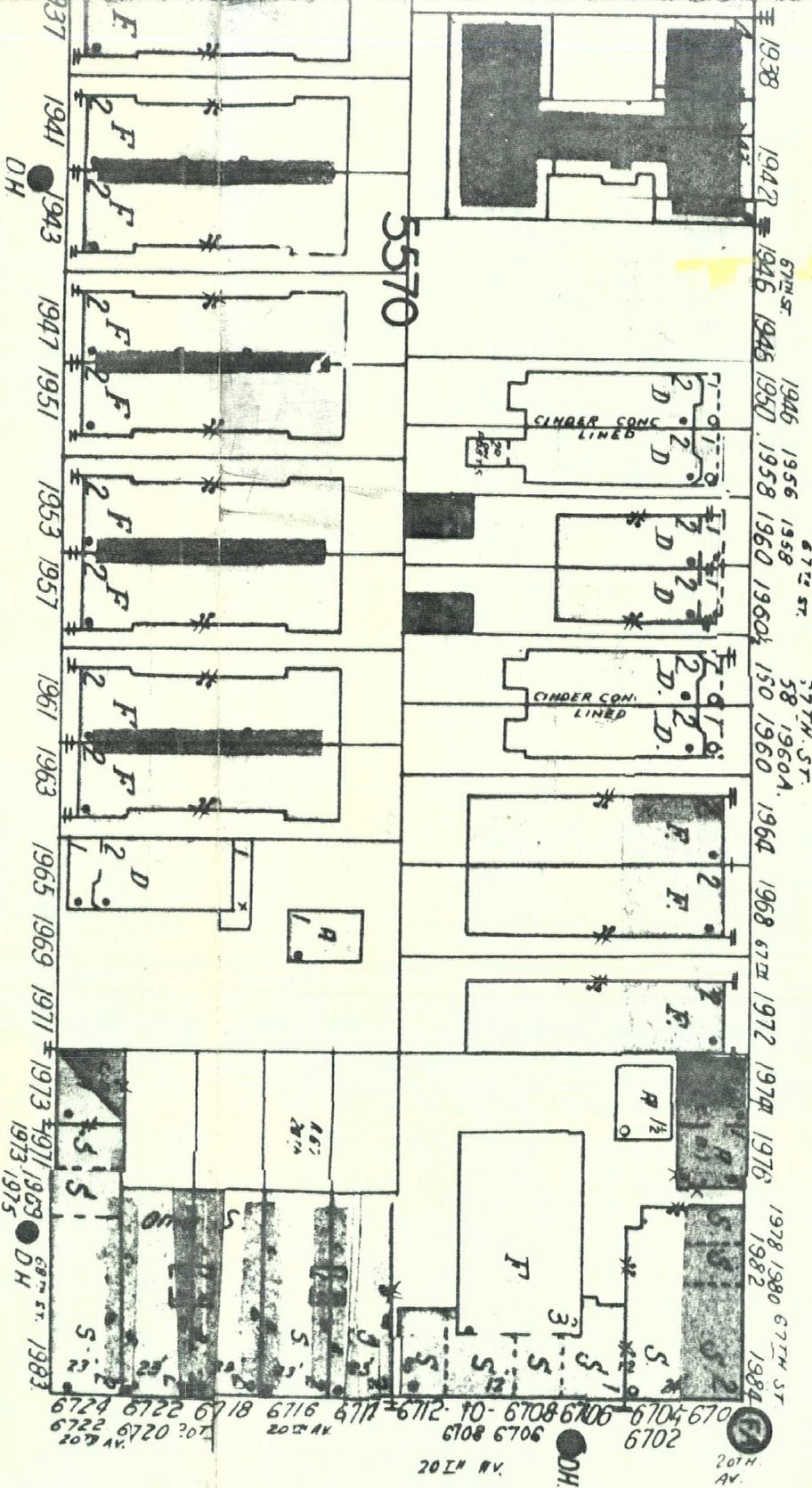
PARKVILLE STATION
6618 20TH AVENUE, BROOKLYN
KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK
DATE: 1982
VIEW: INTERIOR, LOBBY
3 OF 3

68TH ST.

ST.

8 W. PIPE

9

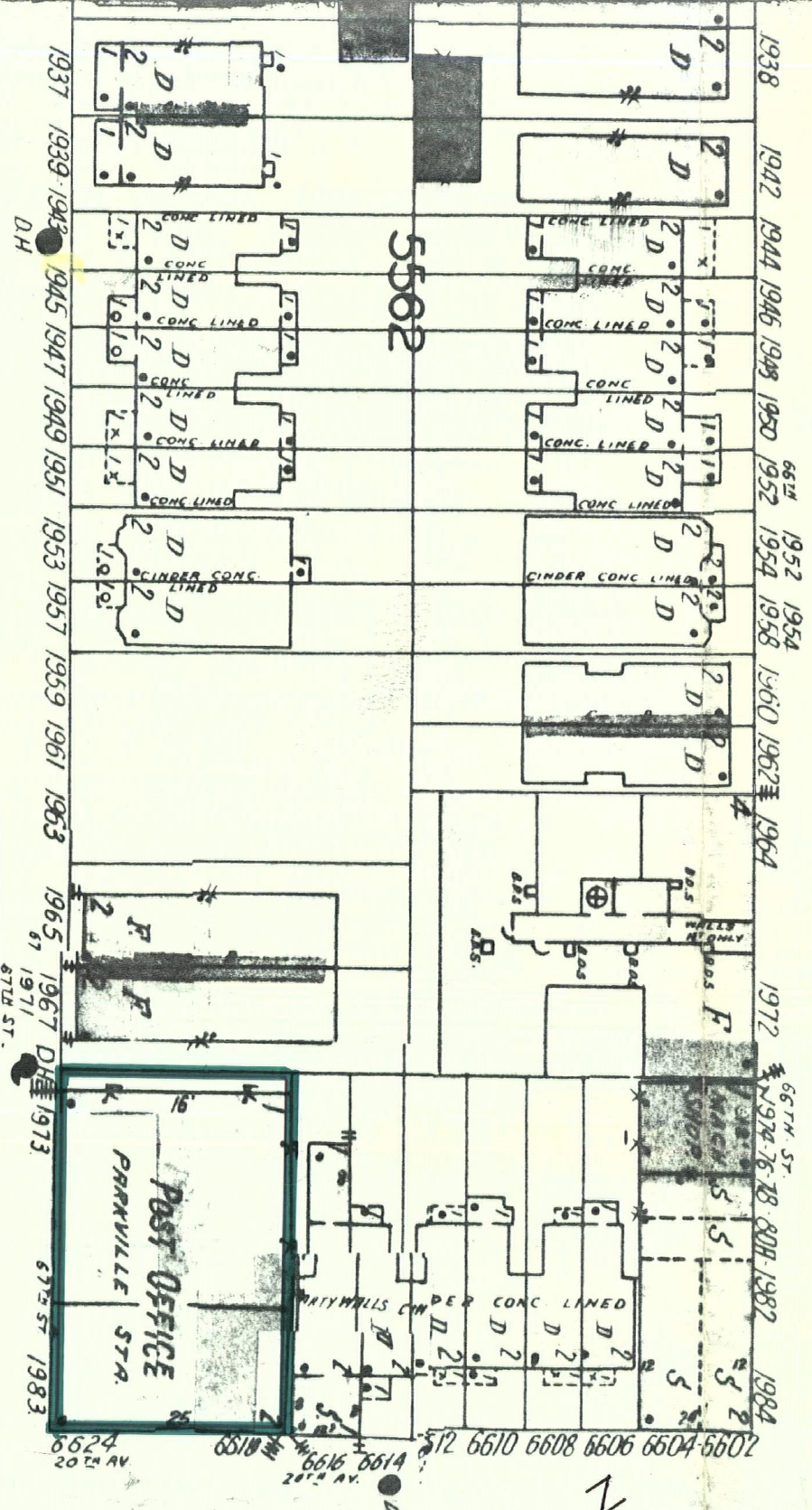


67TH

CT

8 W. PIPE

66

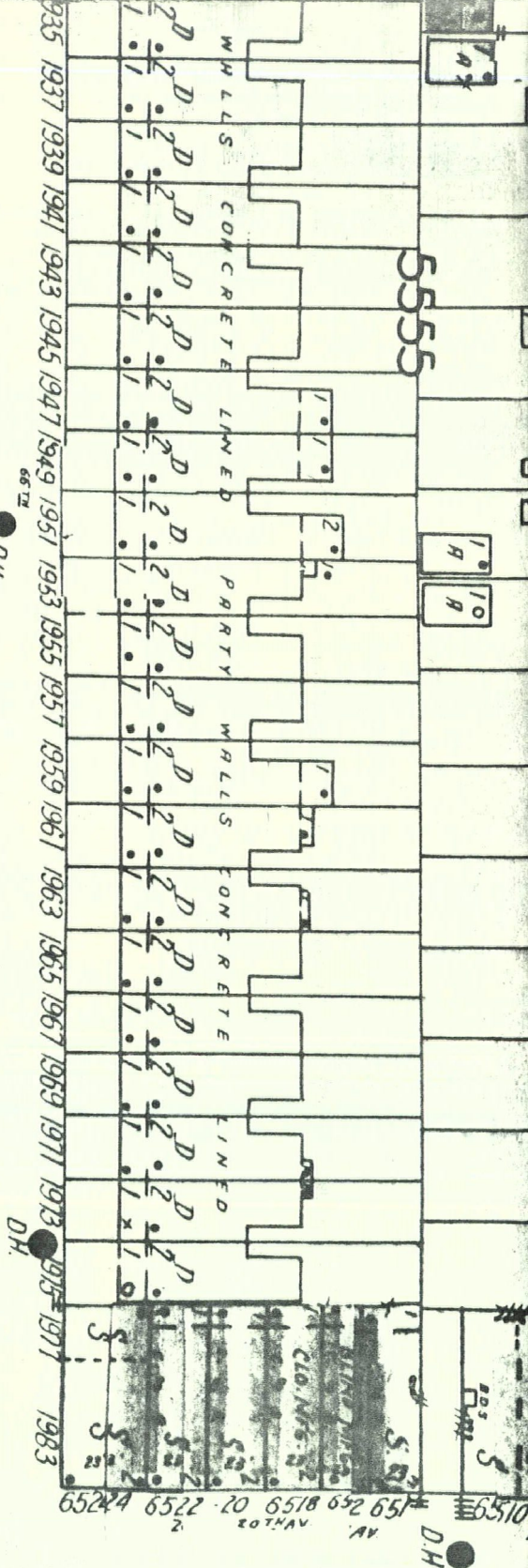


66TH

ST.

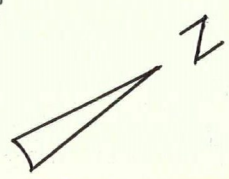
8 W. PIPE

9



20TH AV.

United States Post Offices in New York State -- 1858-1943 -- Thematic Resources
 Parkville Station, Brooklyn
 Kings County, New York
 6618 20th Avenue
 1" = 50'
 Sanborn Map Co., 1929-1950, Vol 12, p65



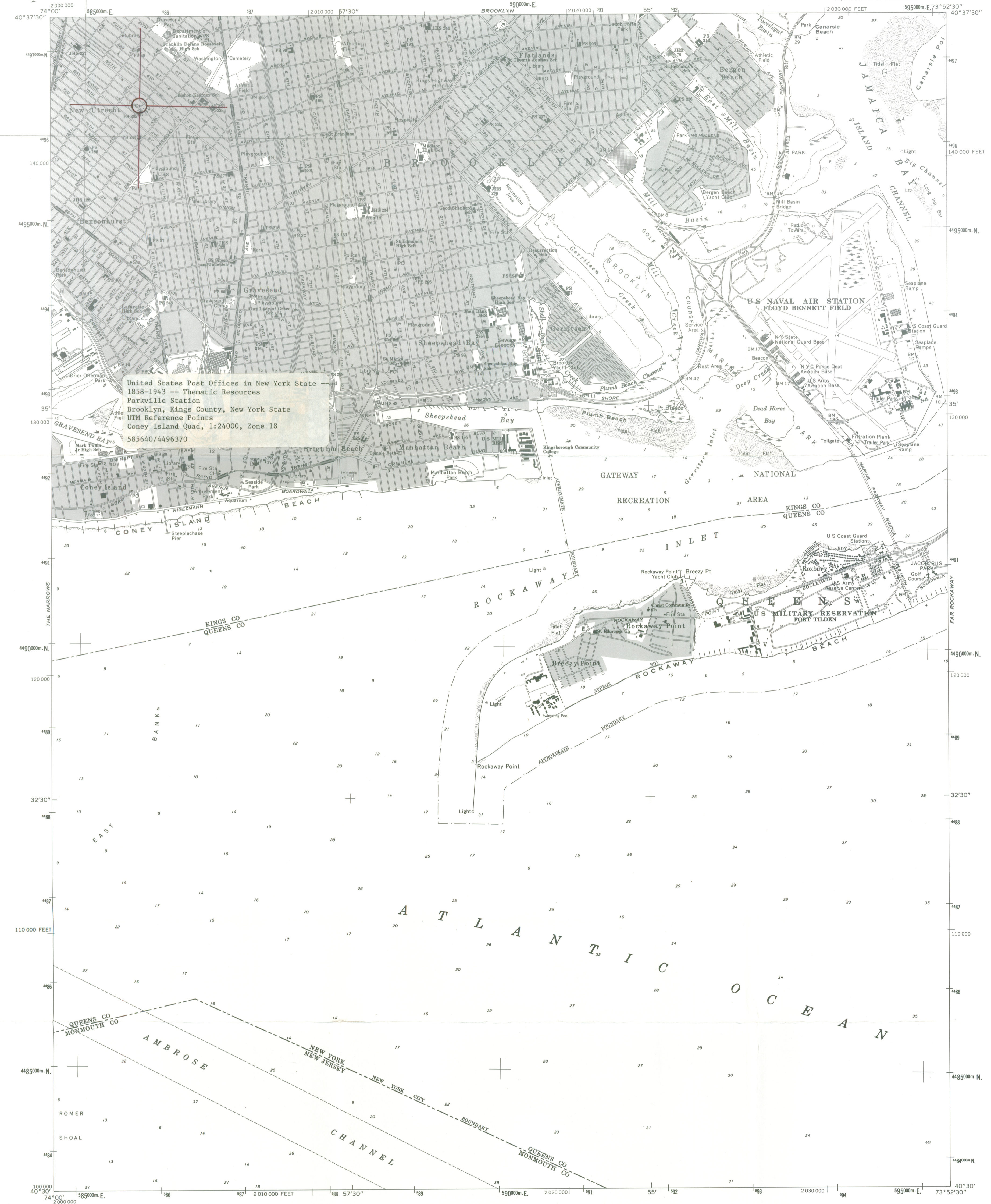
D.H.

D.H.



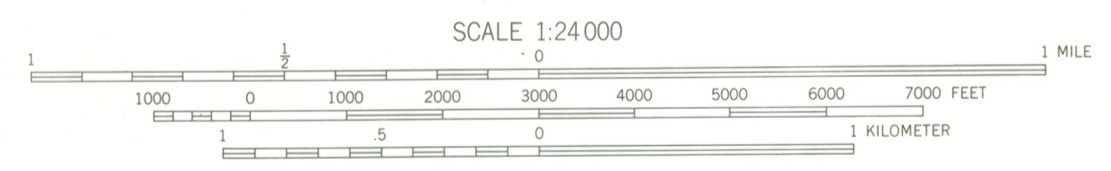
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CONEY ISLAND QUADRANGLE NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY 7.5 MINUTE SERIES PLANIMETRIC SW 1/4 BROOKLYN 15' QUADRANGLE



United States Post Offices in New York State 1858-1943 -- Thematic Resources Parkville Station Brooklyn, Kings County, New York State UTM Reference Points Coney Island Quad, 1:24000, Zone 18 585640/4496370

Prepared and published in 1975 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Map base from 1966 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle. Map revisions made using 1974 aerial photography, construction plans, official records and other sources. Features revised include: highways and other transportation facilities; civil boundaries; recreation sites; hydrography; and buildings. Grey tint indicates intensively developed areas in which only landmark buildings are shown. Revisions may not comply with National Map Accuracy Standards. Correspondence concerning this and other maps of the Department of Transportation should be directed to: Map Information Unit, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, New York 12232. 1975 revisions by J. E. Farah



Polycyclic projection, 1927 North American datum. 1000-meter ticks based on the New York Transverse Mercator grid. Between 72° and 78° West Longitude, this grid is identical to Zone 18 of the Universal Transverse Mercator grid. Areas east of 72° and west of 78° are direct mathematical extensions of Zone 18. 10,000-foot ticks based on the New York Plane Coordinate grid, Long Island Zone. ENTIRE NEW YORK STATE MAP AREA IS WITHIN THE NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN URBAN AREA

- BOUNDARIES: State, County, Town or City, Incorporated Village, Federal-Aid Urban Area. ROADS: Touring Route markers, Divided highways and streets, U.S., State, State Highway number and limit, County road, Interchange number, Vehicle track; trail.



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
FACILITIES SERVICE CENTER
REAL ESTATE DIVISION
WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT 06006-0330

May 19, 1988

The Honorable Edward Koch
Mayor
City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: Bronx, NY - Morrisania Station
Brooklyn, NY - Flatbush Station - Kensington Station
- Metropolitan Station - Parkville Station
Flushing, NY - Forest Hills Station - Jackson Heights Station
- Main Post Office
Jamaica, NY - Main Post Office
New York, NY - Canal Street Station - Church Street, F.O.B.
- Cooper Station - Inwood Station
- Knickerbocker Station - Lenox Hill Station
- Madison Square Station - Old Chelsea Station
Long Island City, NY - Main Post Office

Dear Mayor Koch:

We are pleased to inform you that the U.S. Postal Service, in consonance with the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, plans to nominate the above referenced post office facilities to the National Register of Historic Places. Our nomination will be forwarded to the keeper of the National Register on June 20, 1988.

We would very much appreciate your endorsement to this nomination. Please let us know if you may have any additional comments or recommendations at this time.

Signed by WSM

William S. Moncrief
Historic Preservation Coordinator

WSM/bb/0046E1



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007

553-1100

June 14, 1988

Mr. William S. Moncrief
Historic Preservation Coordinator
United States Postal Service
Real Estate Division
Windsor, Connecticut 06006-0330



Dear Mr. Moncrief:

Your letter to Mayor Koch about nominating a number of post office buildings to the National Register has been referred to me for response.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission supports the listing of the post office structures on the National Register. One of the buildings, the Canal Street Station, is in the SoHo - Cast Iron Historic District, a district also listed on the National Register. We believe several of the buildings on your list are architecturally significant and merit the protection that the National Register listing will afford them.

If I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Joan R. Olshansky
Director of Operations

JRO:pj