

rm No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

OFFICE COPY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Metropolitan Savings Bank

AND/OR COMMON

First Ukranian Assembly of God

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

9 East 7th Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

New York

VICINITY OF

Edward I. Koch - 18th

STATE

New York

CODE

36

COUNTY

New York

CODE

061

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 ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

First Ukranian Assembly of God

STREET & NUMBER

9 East 7th Street

CITY, TOWN

New York

VICINITY OF

STATE

New York

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New York County Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

31 Chambers Street

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New York City Landmarks

DATE

1972

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

CITY, TOWN

305 Broadway, New York,

STATE
New York

7 DESCRIPTION

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Metropolitan Savings Bank Building occupies an urban corner plot bounded on the west by the Bowery and on the south by East Seventh Street. The three and one-half-story structure is rectangular in plan with its central axis oriented east and west. It faces a small, open square. Commercial buildings of compatible scale flank the structure on East Seventh Street and the Bowery.

The composition of the building's exterior design is determined by the massing, by the treatment of wall surfaces and by the use of decorative details. The full stone basement, rusticated to the level of the water table, supports the load-bearing walls of smooth ashlar masonry. Rustication also gives bold emphasis to the quoins at the corners of the building and to the round-arched door surround on the west (front) elevation. A segmental arcade supported by engaged pilasters surrounds the building at the first floor level. The vertical thrust achieved by the massing of the building, the mansard roof, and the tall, three-story projection of the central bay on the west elevation is balanced by the horizontal emphasis resulting from bands of fenestration and from the dentiled belt course which delineates each story. An ornate dentiled cornice at the roof line enhances the horizontal emphasis.

The fenestration surrounding all three stories is regular. Large double-hung windows are recessed within the arches of the first story. Tall arched windows capped by bracketed stone entablatures characterize the second and third stories. The center bay on the west elevation projects slightly to form a decorative portico. Fluted columns flanking the main entrance support a second-story balcony, balustraded and surmounted by a stone pediment.

The horizontal plane of the slate-covered mansard roof is relieved by a total of twelve round-hooded dormers with pediments, three evenly spaced across each roof elevation.

The interior of the Metropolitan Savings Bank Building remains remarkably intact, retaining most of its original fabric. The basement and first floor consist largely of unpartitioned open space, while the upper two and one-half stories are divided into offices. The building's "fireproof" construction features include cast iron columns and iron beams supporting the floors, and cast iron staircases. In the basement is located the original iron bank vault, and the vaulted "fireproof" basement ceiling is built of iron. Original wood moldings, wainscoting, and paneled doors survive throughout the interior of the building.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER #7 PAGE 2

Minor alterations to the structure have occurred since 1937, when the former Metropolitan Savings Bank Building was purchased by the First Ukranian Assembly of God for use as a house of worship. The basement and first floor are the focal areas for worship services, and pews, altars and pulpits have been installed in these rooms. A rectory office has been partitioned off at the northeast corner of the large first floor room. Electricity and central heating have been added to the building during the twentieth century.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" 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 1867 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Carl Pfeiffer (1838-1888)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Erected in 1867, the Metropolitan Savings Bank Building is a significant example of mid-nineteenth century commercial architecture in New York City which has retained its stylistic and physical integrity despite the pressures of urban development during the twentieth century. Designed by Carl Pfeiffer, a German-born architect, the Metropolitan Savings Bank is an exceptional Second Empire-style stone structure which was also a noted attempt at "fireproof" construction. The building survives with its interior and exterior virtually intact.

The Metropolitan Savings Bank was built according to the design of Carl Pfeiffer (1838-1888). Born and trained in architecture and engineering in Germany, Pfeiffer immigrated to the United States in 1863, establishing himself as an architect in New York shortly thereafter. Among Pfeiffer's commissions were the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Roosevelt Hospital and Asylum, and townhouses in the Washington Heights area. Pfeiffer also designed the New Jersey Building at the Centennial Exposition of 1876 in Philadelphia.¹

During the early nineteenth century the city of New York was ravaged by a number of disastrous fires which destroyed entire blocks of commercial buildings. In his design for the Metropolitan Savings Bank Building, Carl Pfeiffer attempted, through the use of stone and iron construction materials, to render the building fireproof. Soon after the bank was completed in 1867, a report published by the Superintendent of Buildings for the City of New York noted:

In the construction of this building no combustible materials have been used, either externally or internally, where masonry or ironwork could be made available, rendering the same fireproof. Were

¹ Henry F. Withey and Elsie Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Los Angeles, 1970), p. 470.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER #8 PAGE 2

buildings constructed after the manner of the Metropolitan Savings Bank, the frequency of conflagrations, and the immense destruction of merchandise by fire and water, which have from time to time visited upon our city, would be materially lessened, if not altogether prevented. It is one of the handsomest and most thoroughly constructed buildings in the city, and is a perfect model in its precaution against fire.

With its mansard roof, its dentiled cornices and bracketed window entablatures, and its decorative wall treatment, the Metropolitan Savings Bank Building is among the most aesthetically distinctive commercial buildings to survive from the nineteenth century in New York City. The liberal use of iron structural elements on the interior of the building likewise helps to distinguish the Metropolitan Savings Bank as an important landmark in the development of fireproof construction techniques.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHY:-----

Withey, Henry F., and Elsie Rathburn Withey. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects. Los Angeles, 1970.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM REFERENCES

A 1.8 5.8 5.2 5.0 4.5 0.8 9.4 0.0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

[illegible]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Edited by: Raymond W. Smith, Program Assistant
Office of Parks & Recreation
Albany, NY

NAME / TITLE

STEPHEN
ORGANIZATION

ORGANIZATION
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

STREET & NUMBER305 BroadwayCITY OR TOWNNew YorkDATE _____

July, 1976

TELEPHONE

212-566-7577

STATE

New York · 10007

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____STATE _____

LOCAL XXX

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation

DATE _____

8/16/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE _____

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE _____

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-301
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Metropolitan Savings Bank Building

AND/OR COMMON

First Ukranian Assembly of God

2 LOCATION

CITY/TOWN

New York

—VICINITY OF—

COUNTY
New York

STATE
New York

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U.S. Geological Survey, 7.5 Minute Series (Brooklyn Quad)

SCALE

1:24,000

DATE

1967

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-76-75

UNITED STATES
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

616
61651 SE
(WEEHAWKEN)



Brooklyn Ave

Nx NYCo.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK BLDG
18/585250/4508940