

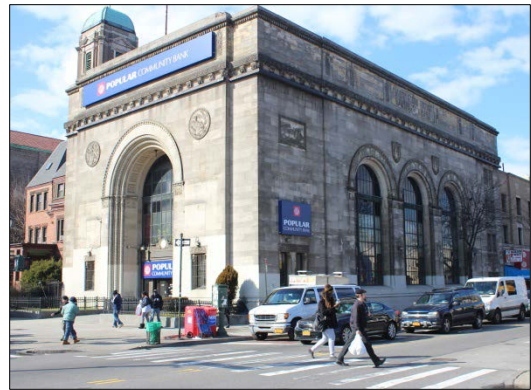
EAST NEW YORK SAVINGS BANK BUILDING, 1117 Eastern Parkway (aka 1123A Eastern Parkway, 270-78 Utica Avenue), Brooklyn.
Built 1927-28; Holmes & Winslow, architect.

Landmark Site: Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1390, Lot 44

On June 28, 2011, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a hearing on the proposed designation of the East New York Savings Bank Building and the proposed designation of the related Landmark site (Item No. 14). One person spoke in support of designation, a representative of the Historic Districts Council. There were no speakers opposed to designation. The commission also received a letter from the Landmarks Conservancy in support of designation.

Summary

The East New York Savings Bank Building is located on the northwest corner of Eastern Parkway and Utica Avenue, at the juncture of Weeksville and Brownsville, in Brooklyn. Designed by Holmes & Winslow, New York City architects who specialized in bank design, this structure would be the bank's second and most architecturally-ambitious branch. Originally called the Parkway Branch, it faces Eastern Parkway, a New York City Scenic Landmark that runs from Grand Army Plaza to Brownsville. As one of the most impressive structures along the parkway's tree-lined route, it was built shortly after the opening of the IRT subway which attracted considerable commercial activity to Utica Avenue. Construction began in November 1927 and was completed in December 1928. Though aspects of the tan sandstone building are classical, such as the use of symmetry and a prominent bracketed cornice, it seems probable the architects were influenced by the recently-completed Bowery Savings Bank on East 42nd Street in Manhattan, a neo-Romanesque style structure with a similar recessed archway. This dramatic architectural feature served as the bank's main entrance, giving the branch an impenetrable, fortress-like quality. Rene P. Chambellan, who created architectural sculptures for many New York City landmarks, including the Chanin and Daily News Buildings, as well as fountains at Rockefeller Center, created the remarkable bronze doors that face Eastern Parkway, as well as the "Commerce" and "Industry" reliefs and medallions. The east facade, facing Utica Avenue, is decorated with bees and honeycombs, as well as depictions of stocky men hauling full satchels. In 1929 the design journal *Metal Arts* described the building as "delightful" and "one of the finest bank structures of its kind." As a show of appreciation to the 250 workers who participated in the construction, a testimonial dinner was held in the banking hall, honoring the plumbers, masons, painters, contractors, architects and carpenters.



BUILDING DESCRIPTION

Historic features: *Eastern Parkway (south) facade*: raised planting beds with stone base and historic iron fence, sandstone façade with original 6/6 metal windows, deeply-recessed round arch entrance consisting of decorative jambs, archivolt and reliefs, bronze portico with relief panel doors and columns set on marble bases, clock (missing hands) and moldings, decorative window moldings, carved lintels above side windows, large medallion reliefs flank top of arch, stone cornice between base and attic level, denticulated stone cornice atop attic level, scrolled reliefs at either end of roof level, flag pole centered on roof, left side, “1928” carved into lower facade at right corner, gated entrance (deteriorated) to basement at left.

Utica Avenue (east) facade: pair of 6/6 windows with shared decorative lintel, three deeply-recessed round-arched windows with linked pilasters and decorative metalwork, recessed entrance with step and decorative lintel, “Commerce” relief panel in south bay, two relief cartouches in spandrels, recessed north entrance with granite step and decorative lintel, bronze doors with glass panels and marble side panels, three pairs of 6/6 recessed windows above north entrance, stone cornice between base and attic level, denticulated cornice atop attic level, “East River Savings Bank” sign (in raised capital letters) at center of attic level.

West facade: pair of windows with shared decorative lintel in south bay, “Industry” relief panel in south bay, two cartouches in spandrels, three round-arched windows, seven recessed 6/6 windows and a door in north bay, decorative and denticulated cornices at attic level.

Alterations: *Eastern Parkway (south) facade*: painted base, iron fence damaged on right, slender metal band incorporating lighting fixtures installed below decorative cornice, hanging lighting fixture above bank entrance removed, glass-and-metal entrance doors, bronze doors have been painted, sign above entrance, aluminum spikes and netting above entrance, lighting fixtures and conduits above doors, gates on side windows, lighting fixtures above side windows, signage above side windows, original signs and reliefs on attic level concealed by large rectangular signband.

Utica Avenue (east) facade: painted base, metal deposit box in south bay, sign and lighting fixture above south windows, lighting fixture between arched windows, slender metal band incorporating lighting fixtures installed below cornice, metal pipe and white antennae on left side of north window.

West facade: gates on windows in south bay, gates on round-arched windows, gates on lower rear windows and door in north bay, air conditioning unit in rear window, tan brick bulkhead (c. 1946) in northwest corner visible from adjoining parking lot.

HISTORY

Eastern Parkway

The East New York Savings Bank Building is located at the juncture of Weeksville and Brownsville in Brooklyn. This area of Brooklyn remained fairly rural until the mid-19th century, when railroads and horse car lines began to serve Fulton Ferry and Manhattan. Following the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 and the Kings County Elevated Railroad in 1888, the surrounding neighborhood changed quickly, attracting the construction of numerous freestanding, attached, and row houses.

Eastern Parkway (1870-74, a New York City Scenic Landmark), was created by an act of the New York State Legislature in 1868. Designed by the landscape architects Olmsted & Vaux, this wide multi-lane boulevard was envisioned as a “luxuriantly shaded” link to Prospect Park (1866-73, a New York City Scenic Landmark). An 1873 pamphlet boasted:

There will be an avenue, drives, and promenade, unequalled on the continent and scarcely excelled in the wide world. The mansions will present a variety in architectural taste, design, and beauty . . . ¹

Though the “supreme law of the State protects this whole district from the possibility of any nuisance”² relatively few mansions were built and by the early 20th century most of the dwellings were speculatively-built row houses and multi-story apartment buildings.³

The earliest non-residential buildings were public institutions, such as the Brooklyn Museum (McKim, Mead & White, begun 1893, a New York City Landmark), the Eastern Parkway Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library (Raymond Almirall, 1914), and St. Matthew’s Church (Elliot Lynch, c. 1903-15), which stands on the same block as the East New York Savings Bank Building. With construction of the IRT subway, which reached Crown Heights in 1920, the population steadily increased and there was substantial commercial development around major intersections like Utica Avenue. *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* reported: “This subway has brought the whole district within 12 to 20 minutes of Manhattan; the ground is high and well drained and is one of the choice residence sections of the city.”⁴

Though most new commercial structures faced the north-south cross-streets, a small number of businesses did open along the parkway, such as the Cameo (later Loew’s Kameo) Theater (Harrison Wiseman, 1924) and the Kings County Savings Bank (Halsey, McCormack & Helmer, 1929-30, part of the Crown Heights North II Historic District), at Nostrand Avenue. Located at “key corners,” such structures may have been the result of a 1924 ruling by the Corporation Counsel of the City of New York which determined that at major intersections business zones could extend along the parkway for 100 feet.⁵

The East New York Savings Bank

A year before this branch was completed, the East New York Savings Bank celebrated its 60th anniversary. Founded in May 1868, it was chartered by the New York State Legislature as a “mutual savings bank.” This type of financial institution was conceived to encourage personal savings and, in contrast to commercial banks, was owned by depositors rather than stockholders. The bank’s home office was located in East New York, at the corner of Atlantic and Pennsylvania Avenues. Edward A. Richards, a trustee since 1911, became the bank’s president in 1919. A former municipal court judge, in 1925 he was elected president of the National

Association of Mutual Savings Banks. According to *The New York Times*, Richards “was instrumental in obtaining the passage of bills to permit savings banks to open branch offices.”⁶

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle described the East New York Savings Bank in 1928 as “one of the fastest growing and most progressive savings banks in the country.”⁷ Growth was particularly solid during the 1920s and 1930s, with the number of depositors more than quadrupling, from 33,400 in 1923 to 140,400 in 1933.⁸ In response, it merged with the Brownsville Savings Bank in 1931, erecting a third, Moderne-style, branch (Halsey, McCormack & Helmer, 1932) at Pitkin Avenue and Thomas S. Boyland Street in Brownsville.⁹

Architect: Holmes & Winslow

Relatively little is known about the building’s architect. Charles A. Holmes (1876-?), who began practicing c. 1910, formed a partnership with Harvey L. Winslow (1878-1937) around 1915. It appears that Holmes lived in New Jersey and Winslow in Brooklyn. They mostly specialized in bank design, working throughout the tri-state area. In New York City, examples of their work included the Metropolitan Trust Company (1916, demolished) in Manhattan, the Bank of Coney Island (1919-23), and the Chatham Phenix National Bank & Trust Company (1929) in Long Island City. The firm disbanded in the mid-1930s. Holmes continued to work for financial institutions, designing an addition to the South Brooklyn Savings Bank (1936, part of the Cobble Hill Historic District) and Winslow was briefly associated with the architects Soper & Winslow.¹⁰

Holmes & Winslow are likely to have first worked with the East New York Savings Bank in 1922.¹¹ A Classical Revival-style branch, at the corner of Atlantic and East New York Avenues, was planned but abandoned due to uncertainty regarding proposed improvements to the nearby Long Island Railroad.¹² Instead, the bank’s main office at Atlantic and Pennsylvania Avenues was expanded. It seems likely that Holmes & Winslow were responsible for the three-story addition of 1923-24, as well as a subsequent remodeling of the original structure (1889-90, demolished).¹³

Construction

A vacant lot at the northwest corner of Utica Avenue was acquired from the neighboring St. Matthew’s Roman Catholic Church for \$187,000 on December 10, 1925. The 70 x 220 foot parcel adjoined the rectory – the former J. M. Voss residence (Munn & Co., 1888), which the church purchased in c. 1904.¹⁴ According to the deed, the lot was subject to restrictions “imposed by various acts of the Legislature” and could only be developed for a “banking institution or a safe deposit company.”¹⁵ A year after acquiring the parcel, in December 1926, the bank opened a temporary branch “directly across from the site purchased for its future home.”¹⁶

The bank solicited bids for construction in November 1927.¹⁷ A meticulous rendering, enlivened by pedestrians, mature trees and a pair of unbuilt fountains, was published in *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* and in *Brooklyn Life and Activities of Long Island City*. These newspapers reported that the Caye Construction Company had been chosen as builder and work was “progressing.”¹⁸ Headed by civil engineer Webster J. Caye, this contractor specialized in fireproof concrete construction.

The ground breaking took place in December 1927.¹⁹ Construction cost more than \$500,000 and took approximately a year to complete.²⁰ To thank the 250 workers who contributed their efforts, the officers and trustees “tendered a testimonial dinner” in the 6,000

square-foot banking hall on December 19, 1928.²¹ Guests of honor included plumbers, masons, painters, contractors, architects and carpenters.

Design

A sophisticated neo-Romanesque design, with some Art Deco details, the former East New York Savings Bank has a strong presence on the west corner of Utica Avenue. The bank, which occupied most of the structure, faces south, with the main entrance on Eastern Parkway. Approximately five stories tall, the east and west façades incorporate arched windows that illuminate a spacious banking hall. At the top of the building is an elaborate cornice and windowless attic. On Utica Avenue, the north section of the façade is slightly recessed. It features a secondary entrance, as well as three floors of windows.

Holmes & Winslow paid close attention to the surrounding architectural context. Viewed from a distance, the evenly-spaced church, rectory and bank form a symmetrical composition. Built in the 1880s, the picturesque rectory is earth-colored, while the subsequent bank and church facades are clad with light-colored stone. Despite stylistic differences – the church is Renaissance Revival – the scale of these early 20th-century buildings is quite similar and their facades incorporate prominent archways.

In the early 20th century, many banks were erected in developing sections of Brooklyn, especially along new subway routes. Bank design and imagery had evolved through a succession of architectural styles during the 19th century, from Italianate and French Second Empire to Classical Revival, which was especially popular in the years leading up to the First World War. Prominent examples in Brooklyn include the Dime Savings Bank (1906-08, a New York City Landmark and Interior Landmark), Greenpoint Savings Bank (1908, part of the Greenpoint Historic District), and the Brooklyn Trust Company (1913-16, a New York City Landmark and Interior Landmark).

For the East New York Savings Bank, however, Holmes & Winslow broke with convention. Though aspects of their design drew on classicism, such as the use of a bracketed cornice, symmetry and light-colored stone,²² it seems likely that they were also influenced by recent interest in Byzantine and medieval forms, especially York & Sawyer's Italian-Romanesque-style Bowery Savings Bank (1921-23, a New York City Landmark and Interior Landmark). Located on the south side of East 42nd Street, near Grand Central Terminal in midtown Manhattan, the base displays various medieval-style architectural elements – a deeply-recessed entrance arch flanked by floral medallions and (originally) street-level windows.

For York & Sawyer, the most prominent bank architect of the day, it was a rare but significant departure. Not only did it complement the architectural treatment of the adjoining Pershing Square Building (1921-23, York & Sawyer with John Sloan), but the bank's mid-block facade projected a fresh image of strength and reliability. Towards the end of the decade, several Brooklyn banks, each designed by a different firm, adopted a similar medievalizing treatment: the Williamsburgh Savings Bank (1927-29, a New York City Landmark and Interior Landmark), the Bank of the Manhattan Trust Company (Morrell Smith, 1929, part of the Greenpoint Historic District), and the Kings County Savings Bank (1929-30, part of the Crown Heights Historic District).

The entrance arch is the building's most prominent Romanesque feature. Monumental in scale, this deeply-recessed opening gives the structure an impenetrable, almost fortress-like quality. Crowned by a banded archivolt that springs from barely-perceptible pilasters, the entrance is flanked by ornate jambs. Similar ornament embellishes the lintels above the first-

floor windows and the Utica Avenue entrance, as well as on the attic level where reliefs depict animals and human figures. On Eastern Parkway, three panels originally identified the bank's name with medieval-style upper case letters, as well as the dates that the East New York Savings Bank was founded and built. The bank's name was also inscribed in the attic level of the Utica Avenue facade.

Rene P. Chambellan

The noted architectural sculptor Rene Chambellan (1893-1955) created the remarkable bronze doors. Though now fixed in place, obscuring the outer panels, they were conceived as pocket doors that were only completely visible when closed – after banking hours.

Born in Union City, New Jersey, Chambellan attended New York University, the Ecole des Beaux Arts and the Ecole Julian in Paris.²³ He was extremely prolific during the years when the Parkway branch was built, producing ornament and reliefs for a great number of New York City Landmarks, such as the New York Life Insurance Company Building (1926-28), Panhellenic Tower (1927-28), Chanin Building (1927-29), Williamsburgh Savings Bank (1927-29) and the Beaux Arts Institute (1928).

The doors are impressive examples of the Art Deco style. Each 11-foot-tall door incorporates a grid of 21 panels, half of which depict stylized male and female figures, some holding oil lamps or books, in various seated poses. Set within ornate frames, they alternate with intricately-detailed rosettes. In 1929, an unnamed writer commented in the design journal *Metal Arts*:

The modelling is vigorous but suave, sophisticated. There is a masterly use of traditions here in which the virtues of the Romanesque manner have been well preserved in the expression of dignity, soundness and friendliness that are qualities that a bank should express.²⁴

Above the doors, backed with marble, was a projecting “open work design” with the bank's name (now covered) and related dates, as well as a circular clock flanked by long-necked griffins. Sometimes described as the “king” of beasts, these mythical winged creatures are often associated with guarding treasures.

Chambellan is likely to have also designed the outsized medallions that flank the entrance arch, as well as the “Commerce” relief at the south end of the Utica Avenue (east) facade and the “Industry” relief at the south end of the west facade, facing the church rectory.²⁵ It is not certain what material was used; these decorations may be carved or cast stone, or possibly terra cotta. Executed in high relief, the Art Deco-style medallions incorporate sinuous interlocking male and female figures, dressed in what appear to be medieval garments. Like the figures on the doors, their heads and feet extend onto the frames. In the right medallion, a man reads from open scroll or ledger lit by a glowing oil lamp (symbolizing wishes and dreams) that is held by a woman holding fasces (a symbol of strength through unity or possibly Brooklyn).²⁶ The left medallion includes a cornucopia (symbolizing abundance), as well a domed temple from antiquity.

The “Commerce” relief, by contrast, has a looser, almost sketchy quality. This rectangular panel features incised, modeled images of a rising sun and lighthouse, flanked by images of transportation, including a barge, sail boat, tug boat, cruise ship, and airplane. The “Industry” panel, located near the south corner of the west facade, combines images of a bridge, factory and construction site. The Utica Avenue facade also displays a pair of shields depicting

bees (symbolizing industriousness and saving) and, fittingly, a section of honeycomb. Installed between the arches, the shields are aligned above reliefs that incorporate images of beehives flanked by men hauling full satchels.

History

The Parkway Branch opened on December 22, 1928. Praised by local newspapers, *The Leader-Observer* called it “handsome” and imposing,” while *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* described it as “one of the finest bank structures of its kind in the country.”²⁷ Among various national publications, a lengthy article appeared in *Metal Arts*, which called it “one of the most interesting architecturally of the many banks large, small and of medium size that have been recently built . . . this is a delightful building, that speaks of earnest work.”²⁸ Six plates and plans also appeared in May 1929 issue of *The Architect*.

The bank, itself, proudly remarked in 1943: “Known as the Parkway Office, it is an architectural masterpiece, with layout and equipment of the most modern type.”²⁹ Later included in *New York 1930*, it was described as “Romanesque in inspiration,” with a “stark principal facade . . . a grand archway that embraced ornate bronze doors, curiously ornamented by Rene Chambellan.”³⁰

Offices were housed at the rear of the building, behind the banking hall. Entered from Utica Avenue, there were originally two “renting spaces” on each floor. These spaces were conceived as doctors offices.³¹ The basement contained the safe deposit department and locker rooms, as well a “cold air storage plant” where furs were kept.³² As originally built, the basement was entered from Utica Avenue. In 1935, a staircase to the basement was added to the west façade, facing Eastern Parkway, followed, in 1937, by a “three-story + cellar extension” at the rear.³³ Designed by Benjamin Braunstein of Queens, this structure (not part of the designation) now occupies a separate lot, facing Utica Avenue and Lincoln Place.

A decade later, in 1947-48, the basement, banking hall and second floor were substantially reconfigured by Brooklyn architect Alfred H. Ryder (with Dudley E. Cooper). Costing \$300,000, these interior modifications added a mezzanine to the banking hall and increased the space devoted to fur storage.³⁴ In addition, the rear offices were modified, adding pairs of recessed windows to the east and west facades at the north ends.

First Empire Corporation of Buffalo acquired the East New York Savings Bank in late 1987. A decade later, a merger occurred with M & T (Manufacturers & Traders) Bank. In 2006, it became a branch of Banco Popular, which changed its name to Popular Community Bank in 2012. These owners made modest modifications to the exterior, adding new lighting fixtures and rectangular panels to disguise the stonework that identified the building’s original owner.

Report researched and written by
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Notes

¹ *The East Parkway and Boulevards* (New York: Baker & Goodwin, 1873), 9.

² *Ibid*, 10.

³ For further information about the parkway's history, see Joshua M. Lupkin, *The Search for an Urban Middle Landscape: Brooklyn's Eastern Parkway, 1868-1950* (Columbia University, Master's Thesis, 1994), copy in Brooklyn Collection, Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza.

⁴ "New Subway Booms Eastern Parkway," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, September 12, 1920, 6.

⁵ Lupkin, 31.

⁶ "E. A. Richards, 77, A Banker, Is Dead," *The New York Times*, October 16, 1956, 34; also see "Former Judge Success as Bank President," *The Brooklyn Standard Union*, February 11, 1928, 9.

⁷ "East NY Savings Bank Celebrates," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, June 27, 1928, 2.

⁸ In January 1932, a surge of withdrawals shook confidence in the bank but was quickly steadied by pledges of support from other savings banks in New York State. According to *The New York Times*, many new accounts resulted. See "Withdrawals Stop at Brooklyn Bank," *The New York Times*, January 9, 1932, 27.

⁹ "East New York Savings Bank, Brooklyn," *Architectural Record* (Vol. 72, September 1932), 173-75.

¹⁰ At a banquet for the workers in December 1928, M. Soper represented Holmes & Winslow.

¹¹ "Tentative Plan for New Building of East New York Savings Bank," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, June 15, 1922, 2.

¹² "ENY Savings Puts Off New Building," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, January 11, 1924, 2.

¹³ "ENY Bank Opens Remodeled Wing," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, January 6, 1925, 5.

¹⁴ Reverend William J. Costello was described as: "instrumental in securing episcopal approval for the sale of the property and who commended also the value of the institution to the community." See "Capital and Labor Dine Together at Opening of Bank," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, December 20, 1928, 2.

¹⁵ Kings County, Office of the Register, Conveyance Liber 4751, 493 (December 8, 1926).

¹⁶ "East New York Savings Bank Opens Branch," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, December 16, 1926, 2.

¹⁷ "East New York Savings To Start New Building," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, November 11, 1927.

¹⁸ "East New York Savings Bank," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, December 25, 1927, 3.

¹⁹ "Work Started On Branch of ENY Savings Bank," *The Leader-Observer*, December 22, 1927, 1.

²⁰ "East New York Savings Bank," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, December 24, 1928, 1.

²¹ "Capital and Labor Dine Together at Opening of Bank;" "Bank To Banquet Men Who Built It," *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, December 9, 1928, B15; "Bank Builders Given Banquet By Institution," *Standard Union*, December 20, 1928, 24.

²² The façade is sandstone from Birmingham, Ohio; the base is granite.

²³ His studio was at 332 East 39th Street in Manhattan. See "R. P. Chambellan, Long a Sculptor," *The New York Times*, November 30, 1955.

²⁴ "The Metalwork of the East New York Savings Bank," *Metal Arts*, August 1929 (Vol. 2), 343-44.

²⁵ *The New York Times* described him as "one of the leading designers of medallions." See "R.P. Chambellan."

²⁶ The borough's seal includes an image of a woman carrying fasces.

²⁷ "Bank to Banquet Men Who Built It."

²⁸ "The Metal Work of the East New York Savings Bank."

²⁹ *Good Old East New York: Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the East New York Savings Bank*, compiled by Alfred Osterland (Brooklyn, 1943), not paginated.

³⁰ Robert A. M. Stern, and Gregory Gilmartin. *New York 1930: Architecture and Urbanism between the Two World Wars*. (New York: Rizzoli, 1987), 181.

³¹ Certificate of Occupancy, Bureau of Buildings, March 8, 1929.

³² The firm was called the “Eastern Parkway Storage Company,” Advertisement in *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, June 17, 1929, 1. By 1949, it was called “East New York Fur Storage.”

³³ The second floor was planned as a court room, seating 50 persons.

³⁴ Cooper’s office, like Holmes & Winslow, was located at 153 East 38th Street in Manhattan. See “Savings Bank to Alter Eastern Parkway Building,” *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, August 13, 1947, 10.

FINDINGS AND DESIGNATION

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, architecture, and other features of this building, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that the East New York Savings Bank Building has a special character and a special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, history, and cultural characteristics of New York City.

The Commission further finds that the former East New York Savings Bank Building is a sophisticated neo-Romanesque-style building with handsome Art Deco-style reliefs; that it was designed by Holmes & Winslow, a New York City architecture firm specializing in banks; that this structure would be the East New York Savings Bank's second and most architecturally ambitious building; that construction began in November 1927 and was completed in December 1928; that while some aspects of the design are classical, such as the use of symmetry and a prominent bracketed cornice, it seems probable that Holmes & Winslow were influenced by York & Sawyer's Romanesque-style Bowery Savings Bank on East 42nd Street in Manhattan, which displays a similarly monumental arch with medievalizing details; that this prominent architectural feature gives the tan sandstone structure an impenetrable, fortress-like quality; that Rene P. Chambellan, the celebrated architectural sculptor, created the remarkable bronze doors that face Eastern Parkway, as well as the "Commerce" and "Industry" reliefs and the twin medallions; that the Utica Avenue facade has reliefs depicting beehives, honeycombs, and stocky men hauling full satchels; that the design journal *Metal Arts* described the building as "delightful" and "one of the finest structures of its kind;" and that to show appreciation to the 250 workers who participated in the building's construction a testimonial dinner was held in the banking hall, honoring the plumbers, painters, contractors, architects and carpenters.

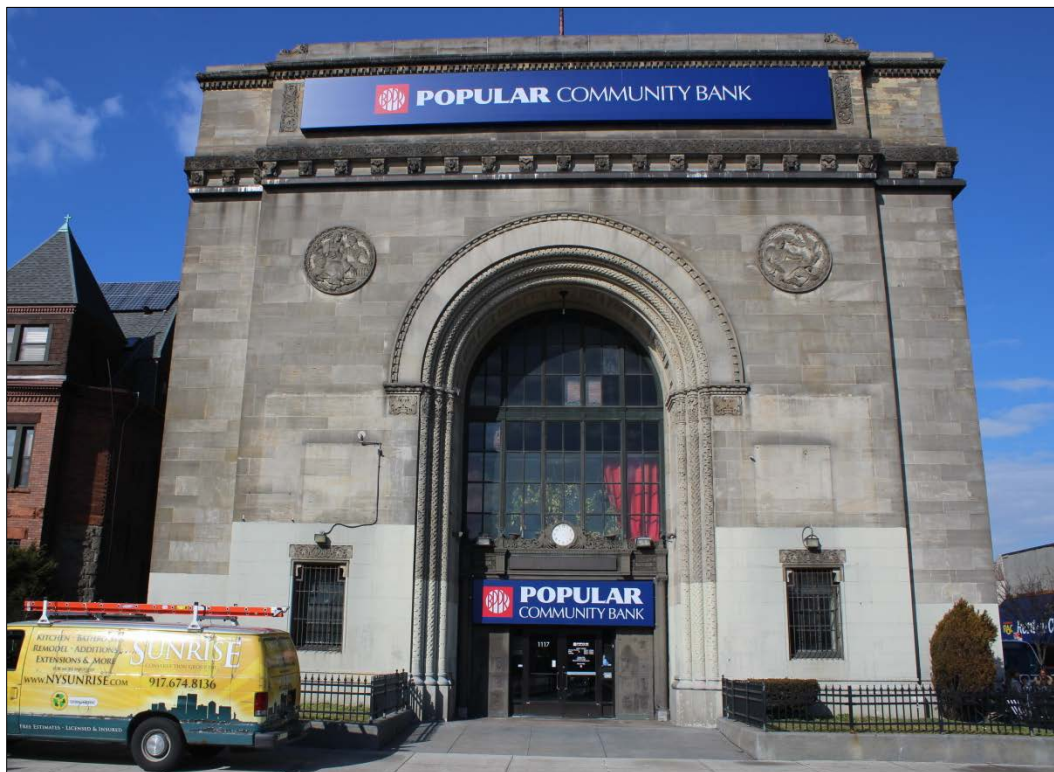
Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 74, Section 3020 of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 3 of Title 25 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Landmark the East New York Savings Bank Building, and designates Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1390, Lot 44, as its Landmark Site.

Commissioners

Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair

Adi Shamir Baron, Frederick Bland, Diana Chapin, Wellington Chen

Michael Devonshire, Michael Goldblum, John Gustafsson, Kim Vauss



East New York Savings Bank Building
 1117 Eastern Parkway, Borough of Brooklyn
Photos (unless noted): Matthew A. Postal, 2016



East New York Savings Bank Building
Eastern Parkway, medallion on left
Utica Avenue, Commerce relief
Photos: Christopher D. Brazee, 2009



East New York Savings Bank Building
Utica Avenue facade
Eastern Parkway: main entrance with bronze doors



East New York Savings Bank Building
Utica Avenue: Beehive relief and side entrance



East New York Savings Bank Building
Corner of west facade and Eastern Parkway facade



East New York Savings Bank Building
West facade from rear
Eastern Parkway, basement entrance on left

