Form 10-300
(United States Department of the Interior)
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
   COMMON:
   Saint Marks-in-the-Bowery
   AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   East 10th Street at 2nd Avenue
   CITY OR TOWN:
   New York
   STATE:
   New York
   CODE:
   36
   COUNTY:
   New York
   CODE:
   061

3. CLASSIFICATION
   CATEGORY (Check One)
   District
   Site
   Building
   Public
   Structure
   Private
   Object
   Neither
   Ownership
   Public
   Private Residence
   Public Acquisition
   Preservation work in progress
   Religious
   Status
   In Process
   Being Considered
   Accessible to the Public
   Yes
   Occupied
   Restricted
   Unoccupied
   Unrestricted

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
   OWNER'S NAME:
   Congregation of St. Marks-in-the-Bowery
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   East 10th Street at 2nd Avenue
   CITY OR TOWN:
   New York
   STATE:
   New York
   CODE:
   36

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
   New York County Hall of Records
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   31 Chambers Street
   CITY OR TOWN:
   New York
   STATE:
   New York
   CODE:
   36

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
   TITLE OF SURVEY:
   Historic American Buildings Survey
   DATE OF SURVEY:
   DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
   Library of Congress
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Washington
   STATE:
   D. C.
   CODE:
   08
7. DESCRIPTION

Number of stories: The Church is one story high with a steeple on the roof.

Number of bays: The front (south) and rear (north) facades are three bays wide, the east and west sides are six bays wide. The chancel is six bays wide on all sides, although the east side of the chancel is no longer visible.

Layout and/or shape of plan: The church plan is basically rectangular, consisting of a vestibule, an auditorium and a chancel. There is a gallery above on three sides.

Wall construction: The walls are laid up in fieldstone.

Structural system: The church has masonry bearing wall construction.

Roof, cornice: The building has a low gable-ended roof. There is a full entablature with a raking cornice at the pediment.

Porches: There is a high one-story cast iron porch with eight Doric columns and an ornamental balustrade above. The porch shows the influence of the Italian Renaissance in its design.

Other notable features: There is a well proportioned and very simple steeple which is pure Greek Revival in style. The pediment contains a bull's-eye window; the main body of the church contains double rows of enframed round arched windows on the east and west sides. There are Florentine marble lions guarding the door of the church and two granite American Indian statues just outside the porch.

Alterations and additions: The steeple was added to the main body of the church by twenty-nine years after its completion and the portico is fifty-five years later than the main body. A two-story brick building (the Parish Hall), basically trapezoidal in shape, adjoins the Church at the rear. It was added in the 19th century. On the interior, slender fluted columns with lotus capitals were a 19th century addition replacing the original heavy square pillars under the balcony. At the rear of the church there was a Palladian window which was subsequently bricked in.
St. Mark's-in-the-Bowery, a fine late Georgian church to which additions of later periods have been made with a great degree of harmony, is the oldest site of continuous worship in New York. It is sited on land that was once part of Governor Stuyvesant's bouwerie (farm), and is reputed to cover the exact spot occupied by his "Bouwerie Chapel", which was built around 1660.

St. Mark's is a happy example of a building that has grown to its present appearance by accretion. All of the additions to it have been classical in vocabulary but they have been designed in the styles of several different periods, all of them typically American. The main body of the church, constructed in fieldstone, was built around 1795-99 and the cornices defining the pediment of the gable end are all indicative of the period. The tower was added in 1807 by Ithiel Town. Four massive pedestals with pilaster strips and Greek detail decrease in size as they ascend. A tall pyramidal spire which terminates in a ball and cross finial was added about 1828 and is attributed to Town and Thompson. The cast iron portico, added in 1854, is Italianate. Coupled Doric columns on high bases support an entablature which breaks forward above each column group, and the whole is surmounted by a balustrade. Each of the two central column groups has an arch between the shafts.

In St. Mark's graveyard are interred many Americans whose names are important in our history, including Peter Stuyvesant, whose family vault is under the church itself, the English governor Slaughter and Commodore Perry. St. Mark's is surrounded by a yard and trees, making it an unusually satisfying building. It is for this, among other reasons, that St. Mark's is now such an important part of the community which it serves with dedication. St. Mark's, wearing gracefully the additions of successive eras, has not neglected the present. Programs directed to the creative neighborhood fill the church and its grounds not only on Sundays but during the week as well.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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<tr>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40° 43' 49&quot;</td>
<td>73° 59' 16&quot;</td>
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</tbody>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: under one acre

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

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Stephen S. Lash, Associate

ORGANIZATION: New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 305 Broadway

CITY OR TOWN: New York

STATE: New York

12. STAFF/ALIAS OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-955), 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [x] Local [ ]

Title Chairman, NYS Historic Trust

Date 12/11/72

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

S E E  I N S T R U C T I O N S