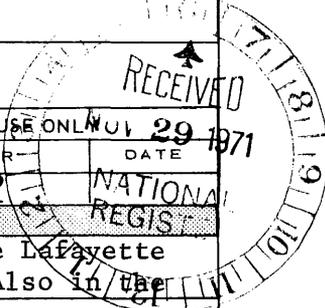


PH0011754

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: _____
 COUNTY: _____
 FOR NPS USE ONLY DATE: JUL 29 1971
 ENTRY NUMBER: _____
 MAR 16 1972



1. NAME
 COMMON: (within the Boundaries of the Lafayette National Savings and Trust Company Square Historic District. Also in the AND/OR HISTORIC: Downtown Urban Renewal Area)
 The National Safe Deposit Company

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: New York Avenue and 15th Street, N.W..
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington
 STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11 COUNTY: District of Columbia CODE: 001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: National Savings and Trust Company
 STREET AND NUMBER: New York Avenue and 15th Street, NW
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Recorder of Deeds
 STREET AND NUMBER: 6th and D Streets, N.W.
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: Proposed District of Columbia Additions to the National Register of Historic Properties recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmarks
 DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: National Capital Planning Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER: 1325 G Street, NW
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: _____
 COUNTY: _____
 ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 16 1972
 DATE: _____
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The National Savings and Trust Building, one of Washington's finest commercial buildings, was designed by James Windrim in the late 1880's. The building is located on the northeast corner of New York Avenue and 15th Street NW; the main entrance is located on the corner and faces southwest. The present building is a polygonal structure resulting from the various additions throughout its history. It originally measured 130 feet on 15th Street by 65 feet on New York Avenue; additions extended the building 50 feet along New York Avenue in 1916 and another 50 feet along New York Avenue in 1925. Although the additions were erected 28 and 37 years, respectively, after the original 1888 section of the building, they were so similar to it in design that only a slight variation in the color of the brick walls gives evidence of their different construction dates. The completed five-story building measures 130 feet on 15th Street and 165 feet on New York Avenue. Constructed of brick and sandstone, laid in cement mortar, the bank's walls from the ground floor to the top of the third floor are 42 inches thick, while the top two floors have 30 inch thick walls. (The brick walls, which are very porous, were waterproofed recently.) Supporting the floors are double arches of brick laid in cement on 15 inch beams.

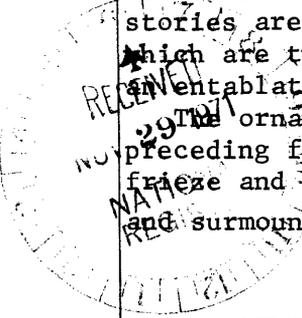
The building, located across from the Treasury, occupies an important corner in the financial district. The location of the main entrance on the corner and the unusual mixture of decorative elements contribute to a well-sited and well-designed building.

The main entrance is one bay wide, projects slightly from the facade and contains a two-leaf door under a round-headed keystone arch flanked by short pilasters on pedestals. Both the spandrels and the pilasters are ornamented and above the arch is a moulded architrave which supports a frieze containing the name of the bank, capped by a triangular broken pediment containing the date of organization (1867). The second story contains a very wide double-hung 1/1-light window enclosed by pilasters and capped by a segmented arch with keystone. The next three stories consist of a corbelled bronze tourelle containing bay windows separated at each story by an ornamented frieze. This tourelle is enframed by pilasters which continue up to the roof line of the building, where consoles support a cornice carrying a broken pediment which in turn enframes a large round clock face. Above this rises an arcaded bell cupola with ornamented pilasters, capped by a weather vane.

On the ground floor of the 15th Street and New York Avenue facades, single and paired pilasters separate the round-headed arched windows which contain grillwork screens. A full entablature separates the first story from the second. The second story is, in turn, separated from the third by an ornamented entablature which acts as a belt course. The fenestration of the second floor is similar to that in the remainder of the building. This consists of rectangular, double-hung 1/1-light windows. The third and fourth stories are treated as one unit, held together visually through pilasters which are two stories high and terminate in ornamented capitals which support an entablature with a highly decorated frieze.

The ornamentation of the fifth floor is more elaborate than that of the preceding floors and contains decorated lentils, entablature with ornamented frieze and denticulated cornice which is intercepted at intervals by consoles and surmounted by a parapet.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Constructed 1888; additions: 1916 and 1925**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated the National Savings and Trust Company (The National Safe Deposit Company) a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. Designed by architect James Hamilton Windrim (1840-1919) and constructed in 1888, this large red brick building is one of Washington's finest late 19th Century commercial structures. The National Savings and Trust Company which is a consolidation of two older institutions--The National Safe Deposit Company and the National Savings Bank of Washington--has been located on the same site for one hundred years. The building occupies a prominent position in the financial district, catercorner to the Treasury Department and across 15th Street from the American Security and Trust Company. In both style and materials, this brick, sandstone and bronze building provides a dramatic contrast to its classical white marble neighbors.

James Hamilton Windrim, a native of Philadelphia, designed several important Philadelphia buildings including the Academy of ^{NATURAL} National Sciences, the Centennial Agricultural Hall, the Bank of Northern Liberties, and the Philadelphia Masonic Temple. Windrim was Supervising Architect of the United States under the Secretary of the Treasury from 1889 until 1891. He subsequently resigned and became Director of Public Works for the City of Philadelphia.

The National Safe Deposit Company was formed in 1867 through a special act of Congress. Organized for the purpose of storing the securities of wealthy residents of the city, the company was entrusted with boxes and trunks of jewelry, silverware and other valuables. Originally, business was conducted on the ground floor of the Plant Building, a three-story brick edifice located at the corner of the present site.

Three years later, the National Savings Bank of Washington was also chartered by a special act of Congress, but it was granted authority to issue stock. Because of this, a number of its incorporators operated the institution as a personal enterprise, making themselves entirely responsible for the safety of the depositors' money. The bank also rented space in the Plant Building and later in the present building which was constructed by the National Safe Deposit Company in 1888.

In 1890, the National Safe Deposit Company and the National Savings Bank of Washington were consolidated into the National Safe Deposit, Savings and Trust Company. This reorganization was chiefly the result of legislation passed that year allowing only those institutions chartered by the Trust Act of 1890 to do trust business in the city. In 1907, the company's title

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

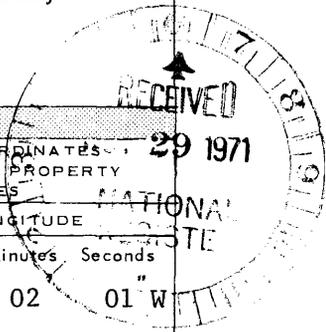


9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historical information taken almost verbatim from:
Downtown Urban Renewal Area Landmarks, National Capital Planning Commission, Summer 1970.
 Proctor, John Clagett. Washington Past and Present, New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1930.
 Poppeliers, John C. "The 1867 Philadelphia Masonic Temple Competition," SAH Journal, December 1967. (information Windrim)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 53' 55" N	77° 02' 01" W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				



APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **14,195 Sq. ft.**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Suzanne Ganschietz, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: **National Capital Planning Commission** DATE: **15 May 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **11**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *[Signature]*

Title Deputy-Mayor Commissioner

Date _____

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

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date MAR 16 1972

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date FEB 7 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 10 1972	

(Number all entries)

7. Description - National Savings and Trust Co.

The third bay of the New York Avenue facade is capped by a broken pediment rising above the parapet and projecting slightly forward through all five stories, thus marking the original terminus of the 1888 section of the building. The third bay of the Fifteenth Street facade is also accented. The entire bay which projects for five stories has a flat front (with two rectangular windows) and curved sides. Each of the curved sides contains one window which is somewhat varied on each story. The entire section is capped by a curved broken pediment which rises above the parapet and is flanked on either side by a cupola with molded base, stylized drum and dome capped by a finial.

The interior of the building has been remodeled and redecorated many times throughout its history. At present the interior of the main banking floor is painted pale green and contains denticulated molding. There are two skylights; one is domed in shape; the other is flat and square. A lightcourt permits the skylights to be filled with natural light.

A fire which occurred December 8, 1970, caused damage to the tourelle, although the clock itself was not damaged. The repairs are to be completed by late spring 1971.

8. Significance

was shortened to its present form.

In 1911, to provide for needed expansion, the National Savings and Trust Company purchased the Lenman Building, which occupied the adjacent 100 foot lot fronting on New York Avenue. The Lenman Building was subsequently razed and the bank erected a 50-foot addition to its building. A second and final addition was constructed in 1925 on the remaining 50-foot section of the Lenman property.

