

NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)
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OMB No. 1024-0018
Expires 10-31-87
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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Isaac T. Hopper Home

and or common Women's Prison Association Building

2. Location

street & number 110 Second Avenue

not for publication

city, town New York

vicinity of

state New York

code 036

county New York

code 061

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: organization head- quarters and halfway house

4. Owner of Property

name Women's Prison Association Attention: Dr. Karl Rasmussen

street & number 110 Second Avenue

city, town New York

vicinity of

state New York

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Surrogates' Court/Hall of Records

street & number 31 Chambers Street

city, town New York

state New York

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Cooper Square Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1985 ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☒ local

depository for survey records NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

city, town New York

state New York

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date NA

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Isaac T. Hopper Home is located on the east side of Second Avenue midblock between East 6th Street and East 7th Street in Manhattan's East Village. The building almost completely fills its lot and side and rear elevations are not visible from the street. This area of Second Avenue is dominated by four-to six-story tenement and apartment buildings, many of which have commercial establishments located at ground level. The property is flanked by a stone church on the north and a four-story institutional building on the south. The nomination includes one contributing building.

The brick building is three and a half stories high and three bays wide and measures 125 feet deep by 25 feet wide. A high brownstone stoop over a brownstone basement now covered with tinted stucco leads to a doorway and portico with a full entablature supported by a pair of Ionic columns. Set within the doorway flanked by pilasters is an Italianate style double door with overhead transom surrounded by reelrope molding. The windows contain six-over-six sash and have simple brownstone lintels and sills. A wrought-iron balcony transverses the first floor windows. The building contains a wide full wooden entablature at the roof decorated with dentils. The attic story windows in the frieze have been extended to the bottom of the entablature and contain six-over-three sash.

The interior retains its original layout. Most of the nineteen rooms contain fireplaces with Greek Revival style marble mantels. The first floor contains intact Greek Revival style window molding incorporating a honeysuckle or anthemion motif and other classical details. In the main library on the first floor two Ionic columns flank a 10 foot oak sliding door. A small oval skylight exists on the top floor.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c.1840; 1874-1936 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Isaac T. Hopper Home (Women's Prison Association Building) is architecturally and historically significant as a rare, intact example of Greek Revival style residential architecture in New York City that has been associated with an important social service institution for over 100 years. The Women's Prison Association became an independent organization circa 1845; its genesis had been as a department of the Prison Association, founded in 1844 by a group of concerned citizens to address issues related to penal reform and the problems of those recently discharged from prison. Devoted entirely to the problems of women prisoners and former prisoners, the Women's Prison Association has a long and distinguished record of public service sponsoring and supporting innovative penal reforms that continues to this day. Many of the reforms initially proposed by the Women's Prison Association (WPA) are now maintained by public funds. One of the WPA's most notable achievements was establishing the first halfway house for women in the United States. The association acquired the property at 210 Second Avenue in 1874 as its third home. The building was acquired for use as a residence and training center for women recently released from prison. The association provided medical services, job training, basic education, job placement, and religious counseling within the framework of a comfortable residential setting. The rowhouse was built circa 1840 and embodies the distinctive form and decoration characteristic of New York City's residential architecture of this period including three and one-half story, three-bay, side entrance plan, brick construction, fenestration, entrance and cornice detail and wrought-iron balcony. On the interior, the building retains its original floor plan and significant Greek Revival detail throughout the building. The building is unusual in New York City by virtue of its high degree of architectural integrity and continued residential use throughout its history. Still in use as a halfway house, the WPA Building achieves an outstanding level of significance for its association with the first private organization in the United States dedicated to providing rehabilitative services to women prisoners and also recalls the residential development of New York City in the mid-nineteenth century.

Isaac T. Hopper was an active Quaker abolitionist and penal reformer in the nineteenth century. In New York City in 1844 Hopper and other concerned citizens established the Prison Association (later to become the current New York State Correctional Association) to address the problems of penal conditions and the conditions of discharged prisoners. The association was concerned with correcting existing prison practices including lack of nutritional meals and unkind punishment as well as

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

administrative corruption. The association's founders were primarily interested in the rehabilitation of former prisoners. When the Prison Association petitioned the state legislature for incorporation, it encountered great opposition on the grounds that the association would interfere with the state's authority over the prison system. However, the legislature sustained the petition on the basis of Isaac Hopper's outstanding reputation. When the Prison Association was established a "Female Department" was created to attend to the needs of female ex-offenders.

After careful deliberation the founders decided that a separate and independent organization should be created to serve women offenders and the Women's Prison Association and Home was established. Abigail Hopper Gibbons, Isaac Hopper's daughter, was the association's first president. A residence and training center for female offenders was established in June of 1845 at 191 Tenth Avenue. In 1868 the home moved to 213 Tenth Avenue and in 1874 the home moved to its present site at 110 Second Avenue, purchasing from Cornelia and George Ellery the circa 1840 Greek Revival style rowhouse. The name "Isaac T. Hopper Home" was adopted for the residence as part of the Women's Prison Association programs.

Although the study of penology and criticism of its practice was not new to America in the nineteenth century, the WPA represented the first organized effort by women to engage in penal reform. Although the association was concerned with reform nationwide, most of its efforts were directed locally in the New York City area. The association focused on the rehabilitation of female ex-offenders and established the first halfway house for women, begun in 1845. During the first ten years of the association's operation, a very forward thinking program was developed to assist discharged women prisoners. Medical services, job training, basic education, job placement, and religious counseling were provided within the framework of a comfortable home. This helped to cushion the impact of release from an institution to open society.

From its founding to the present, the association has contributed to innovations in penology and has initiated many reforms in prison practices. In 1882, it sponsored the policy that first placed matrons in city police stations which, in 1888, became a state law. In 1885, the association helped rewrite the state's classification system; where formerly all prisoners were treated alike, it now sponsored a system separating first offenders from the general prison population. In 1902 after a nine year struggle, a separate state facility at Bedford

OMB No. 1024-0018

Exp. 10-31-94

Exp. 10-31-94

NPS Form 10-800-a

NPS Form 10-800-a

2-82

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Continuation sheet Item number 8

Page 3

Hills for female offenders was opened. The association sponsored legislation establishing a probation system for women in 1900. In 1901, it initiated prison schools and insisted on improved personnel practices and higher salaries for correction employees. The association brought industrial training and alcoholism programs to women's institutions in New York in 1907. In 1922, it convinced the mayor and police commissioner to allow policewomen to patrol the streets and bars after midnight in New York City. In 1925 the association was part of a commission to survey New York State's drug problem and conduct a study of delinquent and neglected children appearing before children's court in New York City. In 1931 it established the Mary C. Walker Fellowship at the New York School of Social Work. Between 1932 and 1934 it paid for the services of the first prison psychiatrist at the Women's House of Detention. It sponsored the first experimental program to assist pregnant offenders in 1967. In 1971, it established a children of offenders program to measure the impact of parental incarceration on the lives of their children. In 1982, an on-site High School Equivalency Program was developed at Riker's Island. As a vanguard and pioneering agency, the association was successful in convincing the authorities that these programs were valuable. Now they are supported by public funds and considered basic components of the contemporary penal system. Since the inception of the organization, over 36,000 women have benefited from its services. The halfway house has also been in continuous operation since the nineteenth century.

The Women's Prison Association building exhibits many of the classic stylistic characteristics of Greek Revival period rowhouse construction in New York City from the early nineteenth century, including a portico with Ionic entablature and cornice detail. The building retains a high degree of interior architectural integrity, including noteworthy moldings incorporating an anthemion motif throughout the parlor and many intact marble mantelpieces. The building is exceptionally significant for the high quality of its design and materials and for its virtually unaltered survival without subdivision in metropolitan New York.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Quadrangle name Brooklyn

UTM References

A 18 585400 4508800
 Zone Easting Northing
 C
 E
 G

B
 Zone Easting Northing
 D
 F
 H

Verbal boundary description and justification

The building is located at Manhattan Block 448 Lot 4.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	NA	code	county	code
state	NA	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Merrill Hesch

organization Div. for Historic Preservation date April, 1986

street & number Agency Bldg. 1, Empire State Plaza telephone 518-474-0479

city or town Albany state New York

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national state X local

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 Julia S. Stohr

title Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation

date 4/11/86

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

date

Attest:

Chief of Registration

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Isaac T. Hopper Home, New York, New York Co., NY
Continuation sheet Item number 9

Page 2

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Isaac T. Hopper Home, New York, New York Co., NY

Continuation sheet

Item number

11

Page

2

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Nomination researched and written by:

Dr. Karl Rasmussen
Women's Prison Association and Hopper Home
110 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10003

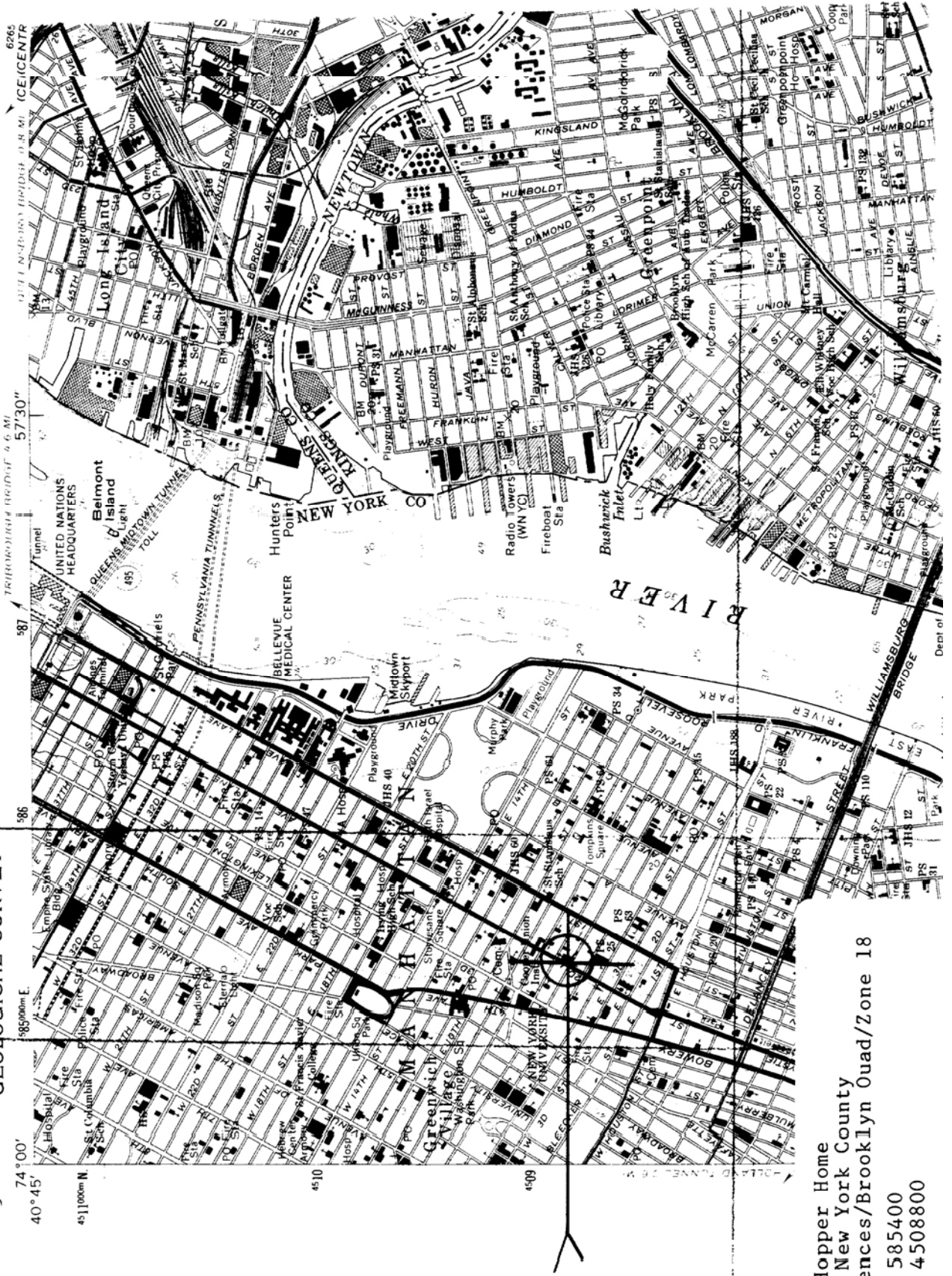


Isaac T. Hopper Home
110 Second Ave.
New York, New York Co.
Nomination boundary
indicated by heavy line.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



61651 SE
(WEEHAWKEN)



Issac T. Hopper Home
New York, New York County
UTM References/Brooklyn Quad/Zone 18
Easting 585400
Northing 4508800