St. Joseph's Asylum Chapel **[N7]**

St. Joseph, Church of. On the side of a modern apartment building at 402 East 90th Street **[●N7]** is a remarkable palimpsest: a three-dimensional, Neoclassical facade with pediments, pilasters, keystones, and arched window openings. This was once the chapel of St. Joseph's Asylum, which cared for poor orphans. The chapel, designed by Anthony F. A. Schmitt, served neighboring Catholics, many of them German. The parish of St. Joseph was organized in 1873, taking the name of the asylum. Its first church was built in 1873/1874 on East 87th Street [N14], designed by Lawrence J. O'Connor. It was replaced by the present Church of St. Joseph, at 408 East 87th Street **[●N15]**, by William Schickel & Company, constructed in 1895.

Church of St. Joseph [N14]

St. Joseph's Chapel. *See St. Peter's Church*

St. Joseph Maronite Church. St. Joseph Maronite Church, for Syrian Catholics, was organized in 1890 under the Rev. Butros Korkemas and opened its own sanctuary at 57 Washington Street [A36] in 1916. "At all hours devotees can be found kneeling and prostrating themselves, very much in the Moslem manner, before the candy-white decorative altars," Konrad Bercovici wrote in 1924, describing scenes that "make one think of the beginnings of Christianity."

Church of St. Joseph **[N15]**

St. Joseph of the Holy Family, Church of. The oldest existing church in Harlem—indeed, the oldest existing church north of 44th Street—is a modest Romanesque sanctuary at 405 West 125th Street **[●Q26]**. Constructed before the Civil War, it is a reminder of how deep Harlem's history runs. The parish was founded in 1860 for German Catholics, and the red-brick Church of St. Joseph of the Holy Family was dedicated the same year. The building was enlarged in 1871 and altered again in 1889 by Herter Brothers. The window over the entrance was turned into a statuary niche for St. Joseph, who can be seen standing over 125th Street with the infant Jesus in his arms. For a time, an affiliated school and convent were housed in the former Manhattanville Presbyterian Church, a Greek Revival sanctuary directly behind St. Joseph.

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The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North New York NY 10007 (212) 669-7801 Fax (212) 669-7818

http://nyc.gov/landmarks

Mary Beth Betts
Director of Research
mbetts@lpc.nyc.gov

October 6, 2008

Mr. Julius Tajiddin
Landmarks Committee of CB 10
215 W. 125th Street, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10027

Re: Church of St. Joseph of the Holy Family (405 W. 125th Street; 168 Morningside Ave), Manhattan

Dear Mr. Tajiddin,

In response to your inquiry concerning the property referenced above, please be advised that a public hearing was held by the Landmarks Preservation Commission for this property in 1966. At this time, the property continues to be under review by the Commission as a potential New York City Individual Landmark. The property continues to be considered in the context of the criteria for designation contained in the Landmarks Law and the Commission's overall priorities for the city.

Thank you for your interest in historic preservation and in the work of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. We will continue to keep you informed of any progress.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Betts

Mary Beth Betts

THE CITY OF NEW YORK LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
1 CENTRE STREET, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10007
TEL: (212) 669-7700 FAX: (212) 669-7960

REQUEST FOR EVALUATION

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is responsible for safeguarding the architectural, historical and cultural heritage of New York City.

The Commission's Research Department is pleased to accept requests from the public for the evaluation of the architectural, historical or cultural significance of properties throughout the five boroughs. If a property appears to meet the criteria for designation as a Landmark, the staff may recommend it for consideration by the Commission.

To request an evaluation, please fill out this form and return it to the address below. Please provide as much information about the property as you can and, if possible, include a photograph.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Commission.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Your Name: On behalf of Land Marks Committee Julius Tajiddin of CB 10		Daytime Telephone No.: 917 553 - 4864
Mailing Address: 215 W. 125th Street 4th Floor		Apartment:
City: New York	State: NY	Zipcode: 10027
Today's Date: 9/4/08		

PROPERTY TO BE EVALUATED

Address: 405 W. 125th St. / 168 Morningside Ave. (Block 1966 Lot 70)

Name (if any): Church of St Joseph of the Holy family

Building Type (Original Use): Church

Architect (if known):

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE INDICATE BELOW ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU MAY HAVE CONCERNING THE PROPERTY: HISTORY, SIGNIFICANCE, PRESENT CONDITIONS, CURRENT STATUS, CURRENT USE, etc.

See Pages 3.5-6; 3.6-13; 3.6-2 Figure #15

#15

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO: Mary Beth Betts, Director of Research
Landmarks Preservation Commission
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10007

Rev. 9/99

Retain this half of the form and present it to the person at the speaker's table when you come forward to address the Commission.

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

BUILDING ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH L.P. NO. 0303

CALENDAR NO. 35

FOR DESIGNATION AS A LANDMARK ✓ AGAINST DESIGNATION AS A LANDMARK

NAME JEDD REISNER

ADDRESS

I REPRESENT N.Y. Chapter - A.I.A

ADDRESS