

THE PEOPLE'S TRUST COMPANY BUILDING

181 Montague Street (aka 181-183 Montague Street, aka 140-142 Pierrepont Street), Brooklyn,
Block 244 Lot 15 in part

Built: 1903-1906

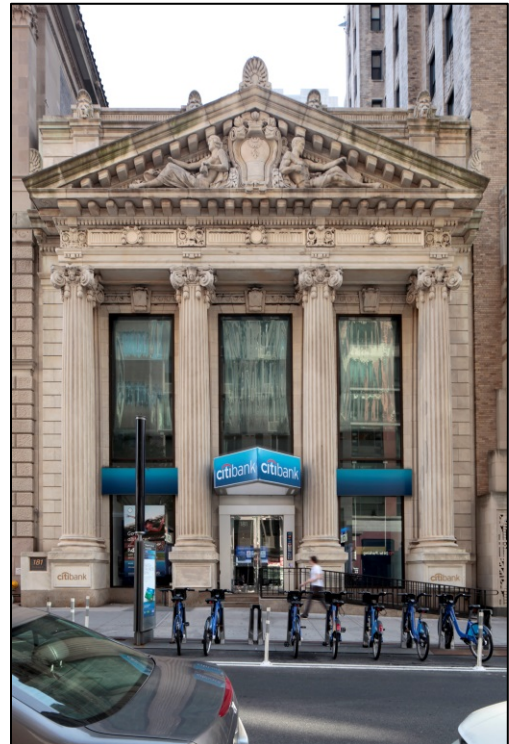
Architect: Mowbray & Uffinger

Style: Classical Revival

Proposed Action: Item proposed for the Commission's Calendar on August 9, 2016

This imposing two-story Classical Revival bank building was constructed for the Brooklyn-based People's Trust Company from 1903-1906. The exterior of the building, designed by architects Louis M. Mowbray and Justin M. Uffinger, skillfully blends Greek, Roman, and Renaissance elements and exemplifies turn-of-the-20th-century commercial bank architecture, linking ideas of civic pride, wealth, and stability.

A richly carved and detailed pediment rests atop four monolithic Ionic columns; at the time of construction, these columns were the largest blocks of marble ever quarried, each weighing 28 tons. Free-standing anthemia and lions-head details further adorn the structure's pediment and roofline. Some non-historic infill rests between the columns and a frieze originally inscribed with "The People's Trust Company" has since been removed or covered, but otherwise, the building remains remarkably intact and retains its monumental grandeur.



As one of the first commercial banks built in this section of Brooklyn Heights, The People's Trust Company Building was critical to the development of Bank Row on Montague Street. Today, the building continues its banking tradition by housing a Citibank branch, and remains a critical component of Bank Row.

