

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

| | |
|------|----------|
| AREA | FORM NO. |
| 3000 | 17 |

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

Town Springfield

Address 1675-1677 Main Street

Historic Name Chapin National Bank Building
(DSMRA)

Original Owner: Chapin National Bank

Use: Present Amusement Park

Original Bank

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1917

Source Building Permit

Style Classical Revivalism

Architect Howbray & Uffinger

Exterior wall fabric cast stone

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) _____
facade stores & facade 1935, 1968

Moved no Date _____

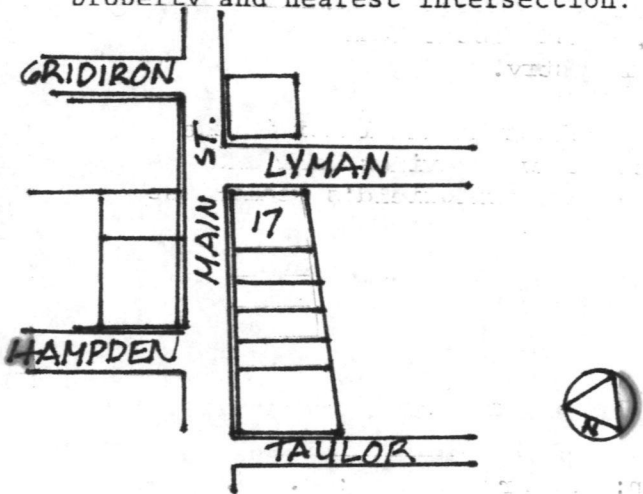
Approx. acreage One acre or less

Setting streetline

urban context; occupies corner block of
period buildings.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection.



Recorded by Fred Clarke, ed. Candace
Jenkins, MHC
 Organization Springfield Historical Commission

Date 1979

UTM Reference: 18/698870/4663960
Springfield South Quadrangle
Assessor's Map #315

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community.)

Located on an important Main Street corner, the Chapin National Bank Building is a two-story structure, constructed of cast stone. It is distinguished by its weighty Doric frieze and the range of two story Doric columns in antis on its Lyman Street facade. Although its Main Street facade has been covered over by modern panels it remains a good example of the banks constructed in the early twentieth century, and of the local pride which surrounded them. An original sketch of the building shows the Main Street facade looking similar to the existing Lyman St. facade with the exception of a central entry. At the present time it is unknown whether original materials exist beneath the 1930's panels.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The Chapin National Bank Building possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. It is important for its associations with the development of local banking and especially for its associations with Chester Chapin, a major local entrepreneur. Although its Main Street facade has been partially covered by sheathing, it is also a good local example of the Neo-Classical style. It meets criteria A & C of the National Register of Historic Places.

The Chapin National Bank was organized in 1872 as the Chapin Banking and Trust Company, a banking adjunct of Chester W. Chapin's large financial interests. It became a national bank in 1878.

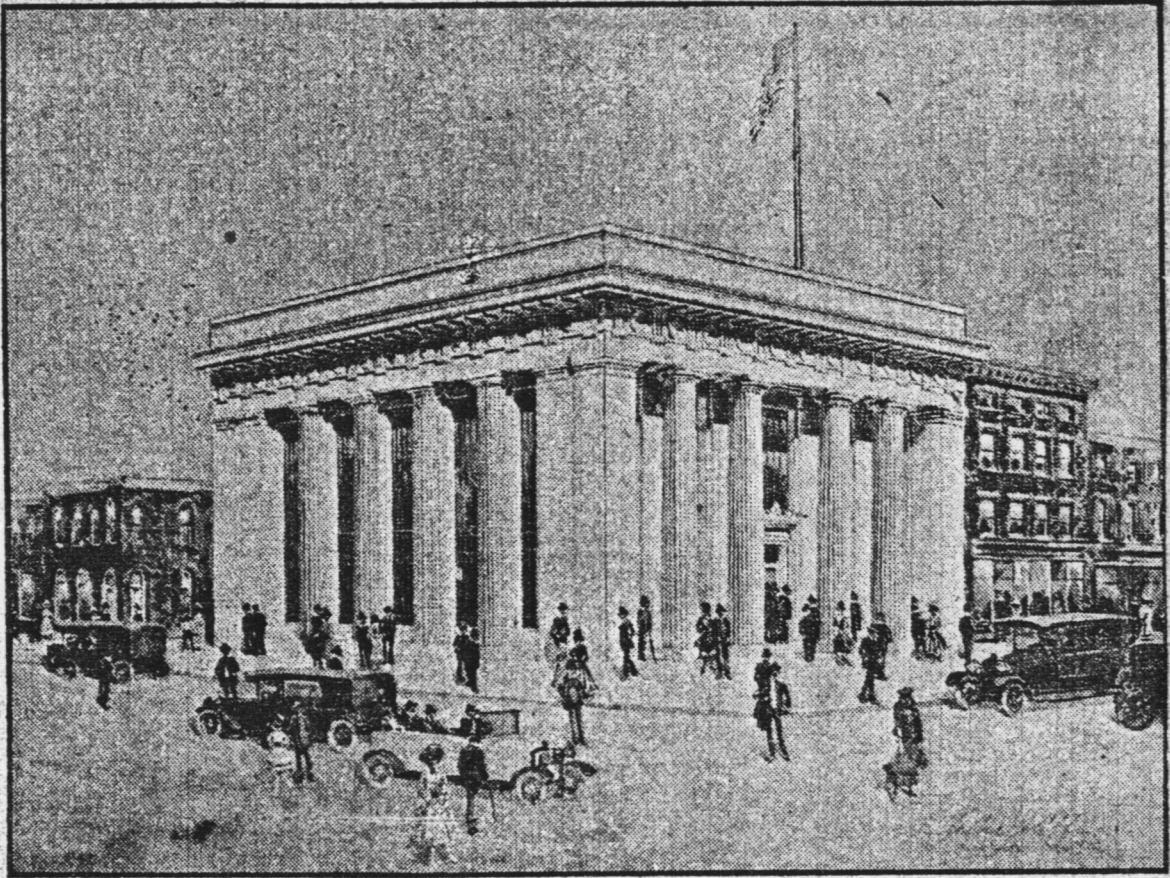
Chester Chapin was an important local entrepreneur whose activities boosted the city's growth in addition to making him something of a national transportation magnate. His early stagecoach interests were combined in the 1830's with the Connecticut River steam-boat trade. Chapin's attention soon turned to railroading, however, and he became president of the Western, and then Boston & Albany Railroads, gaining national prominence in the railroad industry.

As a local politician and banker, Chapin served as a selectman and later in the Congress from 1875-77. He was first president of the Agawam Savings Bank and of the Hampden Savings Bank and was reputed to be one of Springfield's wealthiest citizens. The building was constructed on the site of the previous Chapin Bank at the design of New York architect, Mowbray and Uffinger.

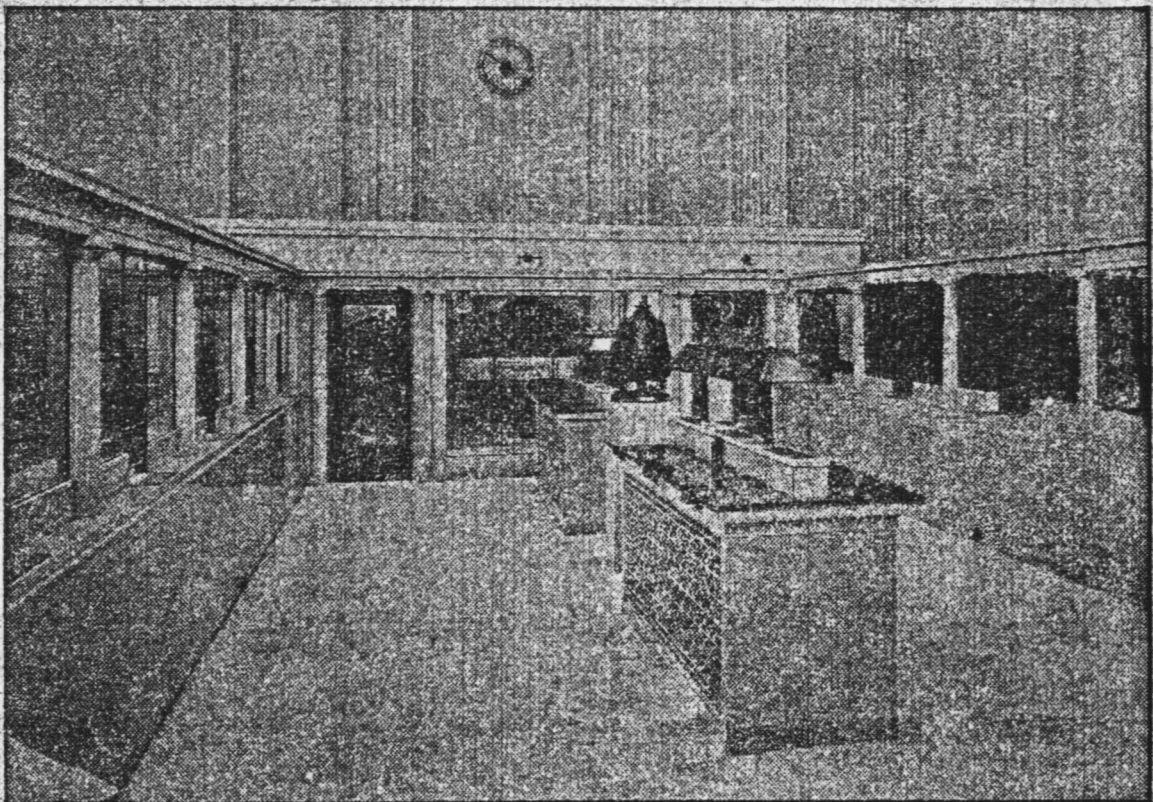
BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date, and publisher)

- American Architecture Since 1780: Marcus Wiffen; MIT Press, 1969; p. 50.
- Building Department, Building Permits
- Springfield Street Directories
- King, Moses, King's Guidebook of Springfield, Massachusetts, 1884, p. 302
- At the Crossroads, Springfield, Massachusetts, 1975, pp. 36-38

NEW BUILDING OF THE CHAPIN BANK



Now Under Construction



INTERIOR OF NEW CHAPIN NATIONAL BANK

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Chapin National Bank Building (Downtown Springfield
MRA)
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 11/10/82-3025
Fed. Reg. Date:
Date Due: 12/9/82 - 12/25/82
Action: ACCEPT
 RETURN 12/23/82
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use
 Public Acquisition Accessible

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition deteriorated Check one Check one
 excellent ruins unaltered original site
 good unexposed altered moved date _____
 fair

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USIT Reference _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

X Please provide (VBI)

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state ___ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

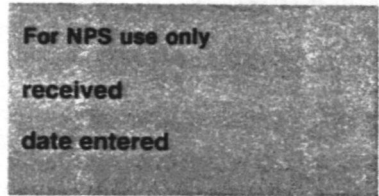
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed *A. Byers* Date 12/22/82 Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Downtown Springfield Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

R

11. Downtown Springfield
Railroad District

Keeper

Bruce Lee Byers 5/27/83

Attest

12. Chapin National Bank Building **Entered in the National Register**

Keeper

Delores Byers 2/24/83

Attest

13. Henking Hotel and Cafe **Entered in the National Register**

Keeper

Delores Byers 2/24/83

Attest

14. Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company **Substantive review** **DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Determined Eligible
Keeper

Bruce Lee Byers 2/24/83

Attest

R

15. Old Post Office **Substantive Review**

Keeper

Attest

16. Olmsted-Hixon-Albion Block **Entered in the National Register**

Keeper

Delores Byers 2/24/83

Attest

17. Hampden Savings Bank **Entered in the National Register**

Keeper

Delores Byers 2/24/83

Attest

18. Fuller Block **Entered in the National Register**

Keeper

Delores Byers 2/24/83

Attest

19. Stearns Building **Entered in the National Register**

Keeper

Delores Byers 2/24/83

Attest

20. Morgan Block **substantive review**

Keeper

Bruce Lee Byers 5/27/83

Attest

X 6/23/83

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

CHAPIN NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
(DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD MRA)

HAMPDEN CO
MA

Working No. 11/10/82-3025-

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84

Date Due: 4/1/83

Action: ACCEPT 2/24/83

Entered in the RETURN
National Register REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
| | Public Acquisition | Accessible | |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ alterations/integrity
- _____ dates

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Quadrangle name _____

USIT Reference _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3500



AMUSEMENTS

Playtown
AMUSEMENT
CENTER

RAILROAD
STATION
←

MAIN ST
←

PAPA MULLIGAN'S

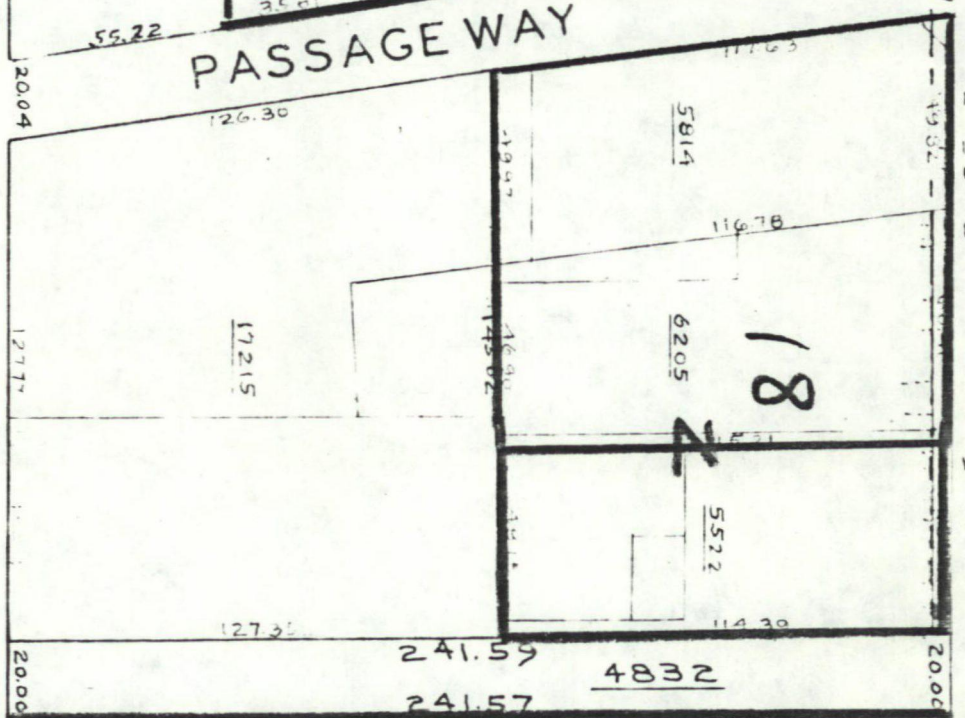
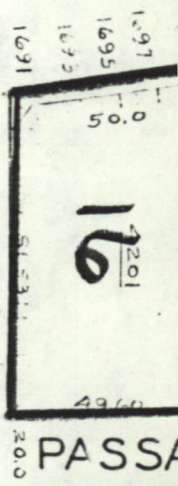
17 Downtown Spring Field MRA, Ma
Chapin Natural Bank Building
1675-1677 Main St.

Chapin Bank Building #17
1675-77 Main St.
1"=50' Springfield MRA

HAMPDEN
ST.

304

MAIN



LYMAN

TAYLOR

26
B5T
28
30
32
B5T

27
31
33
35

Handwritten signatures: BL, PL, PL, PL, PL