

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.

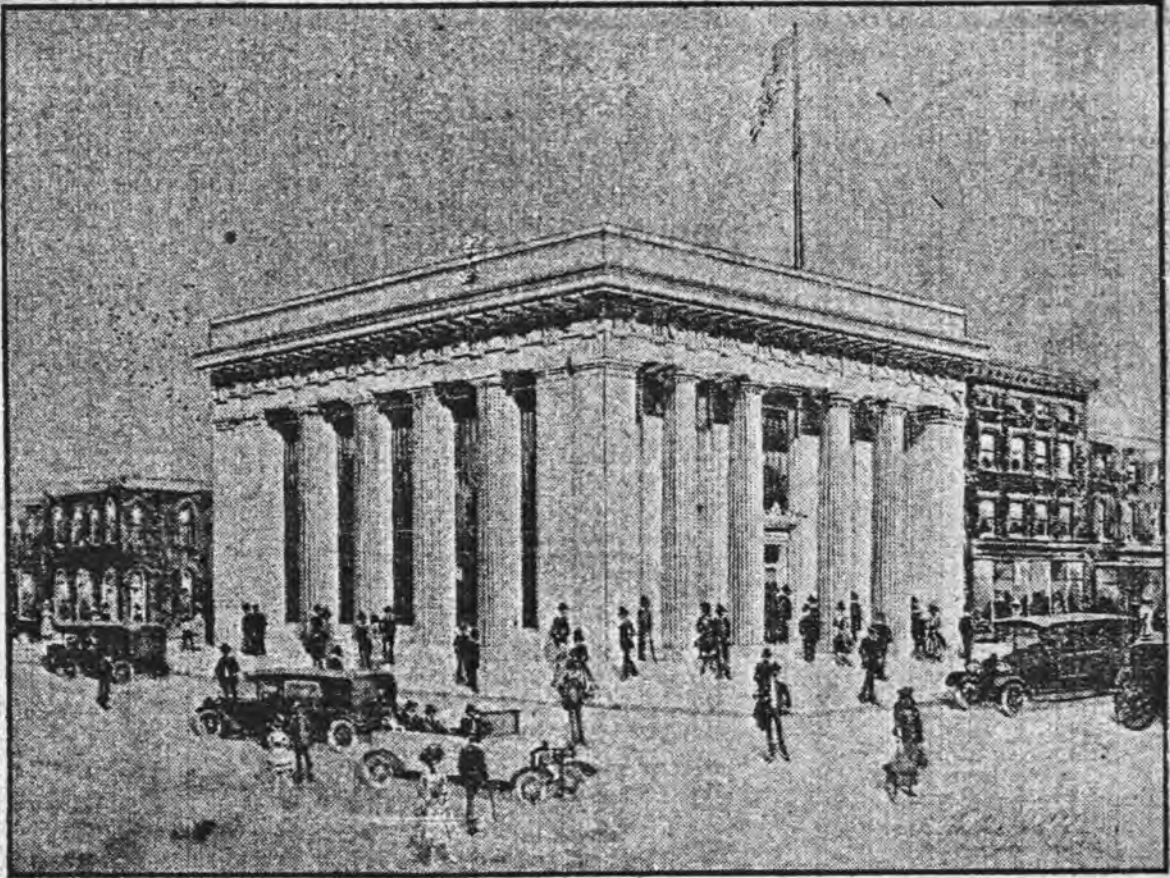
Chester Chapin was an important local entrepreneur whose activities boosted the city's growth in addition to making him something of a national transportation magnate. His early stagecoach interests were combined in the 1830's with the Connecticut River steamboat trade. Chapin's attention soon turned 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.

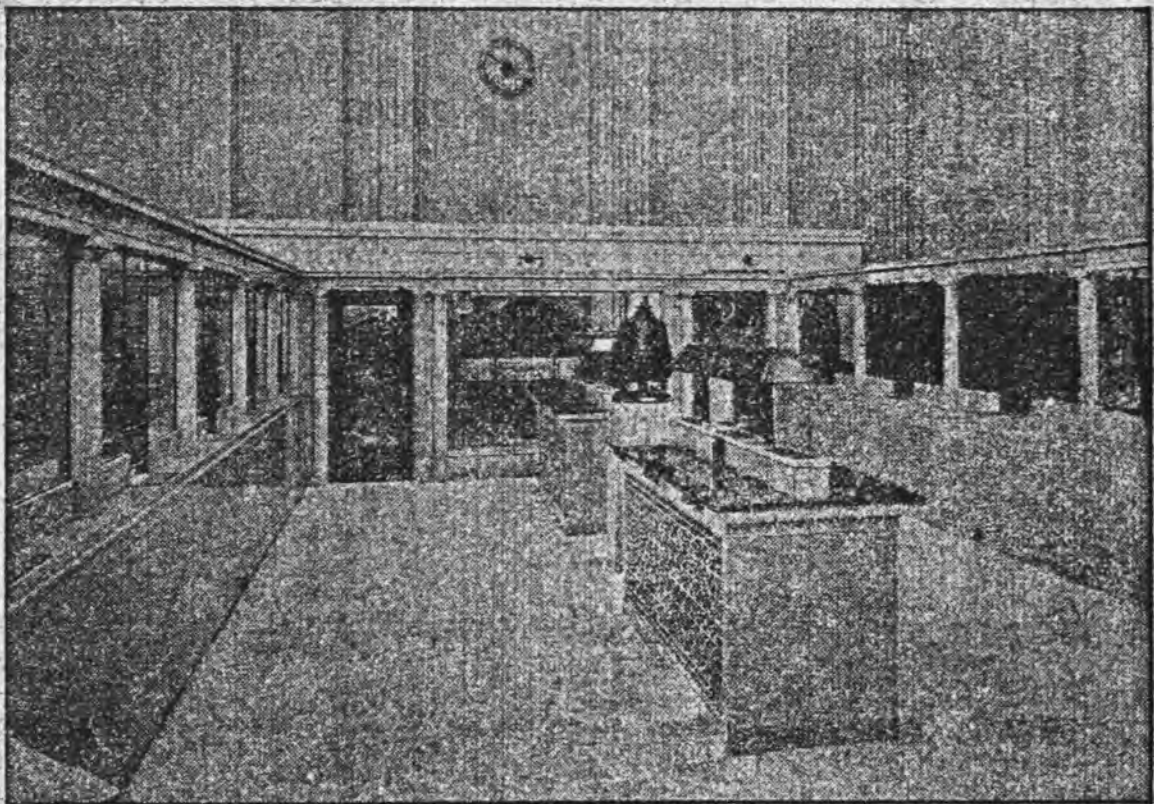
BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date, and publisher)

- 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 References _____

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

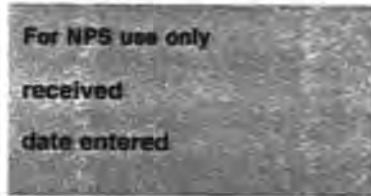
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

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

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Substantive Review

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

6/27/83

20. Morgan Block

Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce Lee Byers 5/27/83

Attest

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 National Register RETURN 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

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 _____

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 _____

Site _____ Date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3500



Playhouse Square
AMUSEMENT
CENTER

AMUSEMENTS

PLAYHOUSE SQUARE CENTER
←

PLAYHOUSE SQUARE CENTER

PLAYHOUSE SQUARE CENTER

PLAYHOUSE SQUARE CENTER

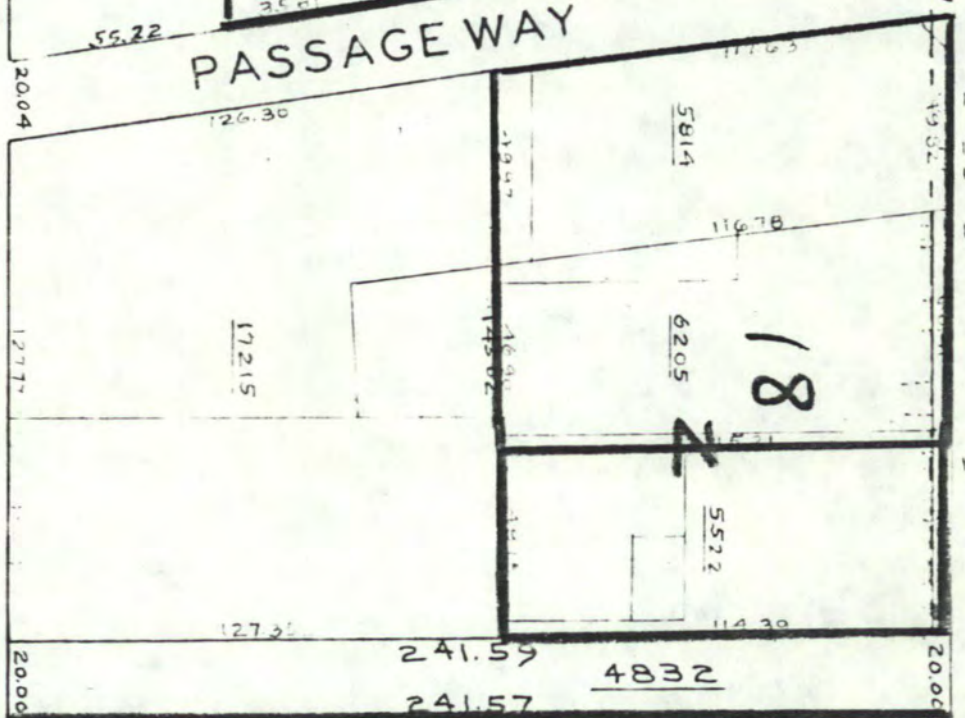
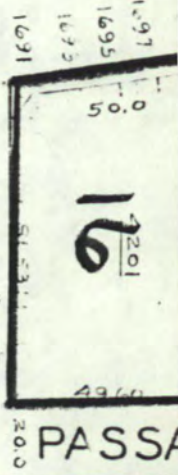
17 Downtown Spring Field MRA, Ma
Chapin Natural Bank Building
1675-1677 Main St.

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

HAMPDEN
 ST.

304

MAIN



LYMAN

TAYLOR

26
 28
 30
 32

11
 13
 15
 19
 27
 31
 33
 35