



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
 Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
 Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

RESOURCE EVALUATION

DATE: 11/8/01

STAFF: Kathy Howe

PROPERTY: West Park Presbyterian Church

MCD: Manhattan

ADDRESS: 165 West 86th Street

COUNTY: New York

USN: 06101.001446

- I. Property is individually listed on SR/NR:
 name of listing:
- Property is a contributing component of a SR/NR district:
 name of district:
- II. Property meets eligibility criteria.
- Property contributes to a district which appears to meet eligibility criteria.
- Pre SRB: Post SRB: SRB date

Criteria for Inclusion in the National Register:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction; or represents the work of a master; or possess high artistic values; or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

West Park Presbyterian Church is architecturally significant under Criterion C as an outstanding example of late 19th century religious architecture in New York City. The church retains an exceptionally high level of integrity of setting, design, materials, craftsmanship, feeling, and association on both the exterior and interior. The original church on this site was built in 1884 to the design of Leopold Eidlitz. In 1890, the large western sanctuary and an addition to the Eidlitz building were completed by architect Henry Kilburn. The work from the 1890 building campaign obliterated any evidence of the Eidlitz design at the exterior, and gave the entire structure its present uniform Richardsonian Romanesque styling. Characteristic features of the style shown here include the round arches, heavy, rock-faced masonry construction, and towers. The auditorium-style sanctuary is notable for its historic altar furnishings, curved pews, galleries, and stained glass panel over the altar attributed to Louis Comfort Tiffany's studio. Located at the

corner of 86th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, the West Park Presbyterian Church is a prominent visual landmark of the neighborhood. It may also possess historical significance under Criterion A for its association with the social and religious history of the neighborhood.

If you have any questions concerning this Determination of Eligibility, please call Kathy Howe at (518) 237-8643, ext. 3266.