

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

Individual Landmark

230 Lenox Avenue (now Malcolm X Boulevard)

Designation Date: July 19, 1966



Saint Martin's Episcopal Church. Photo by Lorraine Colbert

The beautiful Romanesque Revival church of St. Martin's can be seen from many blocks away, as its impressive tower rises above the surrounding house tops. This high tower with its narrow arched openings, is the dominant focal point of the church, and contains one of the finest carillons in the city. The copper-covered pyramidal steeple is adorned at each corner by simple square pinnacles. At the base of the tower, a handsome arched doorway leads into the church. This doorway is paired with another about 30 feet to the east, the two together defining the gabled end wall of the main aisle. This end wall contains three very grand arched windows, which are set above three square headed windows with heavy stone mullions. This is a cruciform church with two very fine transept galleries.

The Parish House stands between the west end of the church and Lenox Avenue (now Malcolm X Boulevard), and serves as a barrier against the noise of the Avenue. This rugged

two-story structure, with its steep gables, is surfaced with the same rough, rock-faced sandstone blocks and smooth-faced stone trim as the church itself, and blends harmoniously with it. The juxtaposition of physical elements in these two buildings creates a rather unusual plan. An exceedingly picturesque exterior effect is produced by the massing of gables, roofs, windows, and other architectural features.

[Read the full NYC LPC designation report here.](#)