

## MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

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Vikki Barbero, Chair

450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 2109  
New York, NY 10123-2199  
212.465.0907 f-212.465.1628

Wally Rubin, District Manager

May 10, 2013

Hon. Robert B. Tierney  
Chair  
Landmarks Preservation Commission  
One Centre Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor North  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: 9 West 29th Street (between 5th Avenue and Broadway), proposed request to landmark building.**

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the scheduled monthly meeting of Community Board Five on Thursday, May 09, 2013, the Board passed the following resolution by a vote of 30 in favor; 6 opposed; 1 abstaining:

WHEREAS, 9 West 29th Street (between 5th Avenue and Broadway), is an 1857 row house with a cast iron front added in 1900-01, designed by the architects, John B. Snook & Sons; and

WHEREAS, Prior to its alteration, it had been used as a clubhouse and hosted meetings of the Bar Association before it moved to its current location; and

WHEREAS, This 4-story neo-Renaissance style loft and retail building is a distinctive representative of this type of design and is deemed worthy of preservation; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, Community Board Five requests an Evaluation by LPC for consideration of Landmark Designation for 9 West 29th Street (between 5th Avenue and Broadway).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,



Vikki Barbero  
Chair



Howard Mendes  
Chair, Landmarks Committee

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Vikki Barbero, Chair

450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 2109  
New York, NY 10123-2199  
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Wally Rubin, District Manager

June 14, 2013

Hon. Robert B. Tierney  
Chair  
Landmarks Preservation Commission  
One Centre Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor North  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: Proposed Request to New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission for  
Consideration of Evaluation to Designate 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street as an Individual Landmark**

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the scheduled monthly meeting of Community Board Five on Thursday, June 13, 2013, the Board passed the following resolution by a vote of 23 in favor; 18 opposed; 1 abstaining:

WHEREAS, 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, located between Fifth Avenue and Broadway, is a five story brownstone townhouse of Italianate style, initially designed as a private residence for a wealthy family, and constructed in 1859 for George Greer; and

WHEREAS, 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street has retained a high level of architectural detailing, including the original cornice; and

WHEREAS, In the subsequent decades as the prosperous residents of this neighborhood began to move further north in Manhattan, the usage of 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street was adapted for commercial usage, and the American Geographical Society first made its home here in 1879; and

WHEREAS, In 1900, the façade, encompassing the English basement and the two floors above, was converted for silk-stocking commerce then prevalent in this neighborhood, with show windows and a cast iron storefront designed by the prominent architect John Butler Snook; and

WHEREAS, An Application requesting evaluation to designate 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street as an individual landmark has been filed with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission by Concerned Citizens of Gilsey House, and this application is supported by the Historic Districts Council and the Victorian Society; and

WHEREAS, Although there are two individual landmarks on the north side West 29<sup>th</sup> Street between Fifth Avenue and Broadway – Marble Collegiate Church at the east and Gilsey House at the west – 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street is just outside of the boundaries of the Madison Square North Historic District; and

WHEREAS, Community Board Five believes that a part of the historic fabric of the building's 1859 construction as well as the 1900 cast iron storefront remains intact, and views that these varying building elements display the evolution of this neighborhood; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, Community Board Five **requests an evaluation** by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission of the potential designation of 11 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street as an Individual Landmark.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,



Vikki Barbero  
Chair



Howard Mendes  
Chair, Landmarks Committee

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June 14, 2013

Hon. Robert B. Tierney  
Chair  
Landmarks Preservation Commission  
One Centre Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor North  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: Proposed Request to New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission for Evaluation to Consider Designation of 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street as an Individual Landmark**

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the scheduled monthly meeting of Community Board Five on Thursday, June 13, 2013, the Board passed the following resolution by a vote of 23 in favor; 18 opposed; 1 abstaining:

WHEREAS, 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, located between Fifth Avenue and Broadway, are two five story brownstone townhouses of Italianate style, initially each designed as a private residence for a wealthy family, and constructed in 1859 for George Greer; and

WHEREAS, 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, now combined as one building, has retained a high level of architectural detailing, including the original cornices; and

WHEREAS, In the subsequent decades, as the prosperous residents of this neighborhood began to move further north in Manhattan, the usage of 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street was adapted for commercial usage; and

WHEREAS, In 1900, the façades, encompassing the English basements and the two floors above, were combined and converted for silk-stocking commerce then prevalent in this neighborhood, with show windows and a cast iron storefront designed by the prominent architect John Butler Snook; and

WHEREAS, An early resident of 13 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street was the American-born operatic tenor John Haley Augustin Chatterton, famous as the boy soprano under the name *Johnny Holman*, and then later known later by his professional name *Don Giovanni Perugini*; and

WHEREAS, In the 1920's, 13 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street served as the headquarters for the Woodcraft League of America, a predecessor to and inspiration for the British Boy Scouts organization; and

WHEREAS, An Application requesting evaluation to designate 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street as an individual landmark has been filed with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission by Concerned Citizens of Gilsey House, and this application is supported by the Historic Districts Council and the Victorian Society; and

WHEREAS, Although there are two individual landmarks on the north side West 29<sup>th</sup> Street between Fifth Avenue and Broadway – Marble Collegiate Church at the east and Gilsey House at the west – 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street is just outside of the boundaries of the Madison Square North Historic District; and

WHEREAS, Community Board Five believes that a part of the historic fabric of the buildings' 1859 construction as well as the 1900 cast iron storefront remains intact, and views that these varying building elements display the evolution of this neighborhood; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, Community Board Five **requests an evaluation** by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission of the potential designation of 13-15 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street as an individual landmark.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,



Vikki Barbero  
Chair



Howard Mendes  
Chair, Landmarks Committee