

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

NOV 29 1976

DATE ENTERED

APR 28 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Fraunces Tavern Block

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Block Bounded by Pearl, Water, Broad /

Streets and Coenties Slip

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

New York

— VICINITY OF

17th - Rep. John M. Murphy

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

New York

CODE

036

COUNTY

New York

CODE

061

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☒ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☒ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

See continuation sheet.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New York County Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

31 Chambers Street

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic District Plans of the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

DATE

1964-1966

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

CITY, TOWN

305 Broadway, New York

STATE

New York

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fraunces Tavern Block, bounded by Coenties Slip, Broad, Water and Pearl Streets in Lower Manhattan, is composed of sixteen different eighteenth and nineteenth century structures. These contiguous but independent buildings exemplify the various architectural styles of the period. The block derives its name from the Fraunces Tavern, a reconstructed city landmark which houses a restaurant and museum dedicated to George Washington and the Revolutionary War. The Tavern is at the corner of Broad and Pearl Streets, at the northwest corner of the block.

The area surrounding the Fraunces Tavern Block was radically affected by the enormous redevelopment of Lower Manhattan that occurred during the past decade. The adjacent landscape is characterized by parking lots awaiting future construction and by looming office towers. The massive structures nearby create a deep contrast with the antiquated design and small scale of the former mercantile establishments that remain from an older New York.

The visual and temporal unity of the Fraunces Tavern Block promotes continuity among the individual structures that were separately designed. The sixteen buildings form an harmonious unit uninterrupted by incompatible intrusions. The buildings are constructed of masonry bearing walls, mostly brick with stone trim on some windows and doorways as well as in the form of ground floor piers. They range in height from three-and-a-half stories to six stories, and in width from three to six bays. The roofs are either flat or pitched, in some cases with dormers. Some structures were built for residential uses but were early at least partially converted to commercial uses. Monumental granite piers, carved capitals, arched and paned windows, leaded fanlights, Flemish patterned bond brick, pitched roofs, cast-iron storefronts, delicately detailed railings and uniform cornice lines are prominent features that respectively express the Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian phases of architecture.

The modern intrusions which exist in the block are in the form of ground floor alterations. Possibly the most noticeable alteration is the ground floor of 22 Water Street/105 Broad Street (1882) which is an imitation of uncoursed rubble. The facade of 26 Water Street was recently remodeled in the early Georgian style.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Owners

ITEM NUMBER #4 PAGE 1

Owner:

Leon Abolafia
150 Nassau Street

Joseph F. DeMay, Inc.
28 Water Street

Pearl-Water Street Realty
38 Pearl Street

Sons of the Revolution
54 Pearl Street

Sylvan Lawrence Company
100 William Street

Uris Building Corp.
10 East 53rd Street

Property:

30 Water Street

28 Water Street

62 Pearl Street
32 Water Street

54, 58 Pearl Street
101 Broad Street
24, 26 Water Street

60 Pearl Street
105 Broad Street/22 Water Street

1 Coenties Slip/38 Water Street
3 Coenties Slip
5 Coenties Slip/66 Pearl Street
34 Water Street/64 Pearl Street
36 Water Street

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Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER #7 PAGE 2

The Fraunces Tavern, *itself*, for which the block was named, contains some original fabric, particularly on lower floors, but is the result of a massive conjectural restoration which took place in 1907. The other buildings on the block actually have more historical integrity than the tavern because they have retained more early fabric.

A list of the sixteen buildings which comprise the block is contained in section 4.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION	
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE	
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE	
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
☒ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER	
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION	
☒ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		☐ INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fraunces Tavern Block derives its significance both from the sense of history it conveys and from the array of architectural styles that are formidably compacted into the block. One of the few surviving examples of the waterfront community in nineteenth century New York City, it is a rare and surprising urban streetscape.

Deeded to the Van Cortlandt family under an East River Water Grant (c. 1686), by 1800 the land-filled block consisted of residential buildings. Stephen de Lancey, the son-in-law of Stephanus Van Cortlandt, built a dwelling for his family in the block in 1719. The house, bought in 1763 by Samuel Fraunces, became the Queen's Head Tavern. With the growth of harbor commerce in the nineteenth century, the other houses were converted into stores, factories and warehouses. This transformation from a residential community into a business center was facilitated by the demolition of buildings to make possible the widening of Pearl Street in the 1820's; this changed the boundaries of the block to the street line that exists today. In the place of the demolished houses, present-day commercial buildings were constructed to accommodate the new and thriving businesses of the seaport. The block has a known archeological potential.

Ada Louise Huxtable, in a recent New York Times article, has most articulately expressed the sentiments of preservationists, historians and a large portion of the Lower Manhattan Community with regard to the Fraunces Tavern Block:

What the Fraunces Tavern block represents now, in professional urban terms, is the most valuable kind of architectural townscape; a real, surviving, cohesive group of structures of a specifically related period and style that forms an incomparable dramatic foil for the present;

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Annual Report of the Fraunces Tavern Museum, 1973.

Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America.
New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1944.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .53 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 583510 45106080
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Karen Ansis, Director of Research

ORGANIZATION

New York Landmarks Conservancy

STREET & NUMBER

17 Battery Place

CITY OR TOWN

New York

Elizabeth K. Ralph, Historic
Preservation Field Services, NYS Office
of Parks & Recreation, Albany, NY

DATE

December 20, 1974

TELEPHONE

212-425-4085

STATE

New York

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

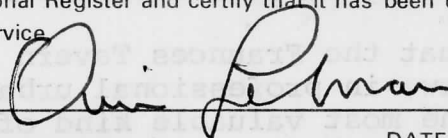
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XXX

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

Commissioner for Parks & Recreation

DATE November 23, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

4/28/77

DATE

9-28-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER #8 PAGE 2

a kind of historical and esthetic setting for which there is no substitute, and without which a city is immeasurably poorer. It is a rare island of historic authenticity.¹

Remarkably, the block has survived fires, unaesthetic alterations, demolition and grave deterioration; it continues to offer an architectural record of over one-hundred years of history. The architects and builders responsible for the Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian buildings are unknown. But it is evident and widely acknowledged that the anonymous designers and craftsmen of the nineteenth century devised a distinctive architectural style for commercial buildings which the Fraunces Tavern Block exemplifies in a completeness infrequently encountered in New York City.

The ground level storefront facades typically consisted of monolithic granite piers and carved capitals. The upper stories were constructed with brick, topped with a simple cornice. Talbot Hamlin describes the type of buildings built in this area of Manhattan during the early nineteenth century as follows:

...the uniformity of their cornice lines, the monumental repetition of their granite piers, and the rhythmical regularity of their openings give a pleasant harmony and unity to the streets they border. The best of these buildings are simple, useful, unostentatious, human in scale, and unrestrained and delicate in detail.²

¹Huxtable, Ada Louise. "The Bulldozer Approaches a Historic Block," New York Times, July 14, 1974, Section II, p. 21.

²Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America (New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1944), p. 149.

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Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER #8 PAGE 3

The even setbacks and comparatively low heights of the buildings transmit a feeling of solidarity among the structures in the grouping. The individual buildings that are diversely designed create a highly interesting setting; the small scale of the Fraunces Tavern Block becomes of greater value when viewed against the surrounding skyscrapers of contemporary architecture. The resulting contrast between the Fraunces Tavern Block and the large edifices in Lower Manhattan is excitingly striking, and provides a humanizing note in the midst of twentieth century walled canyons.

Property FRANCES TAVERN BLOCK

State New York

Working Number 11.29.76.4661

77000957

New York

TECHNICAL

Photos 3

Maps 1, sketch

CONTROL

OK PL
12.1.76

HISTORIAN

Agree w/ Mickey. ^{In view of demolition threat,} ~~Accept~~, but get more info - including, if possible, a more specific history of the uses of these buildings in relation to the changing character of the area from the 19th c. to the present.

accept - then more info
B. Grovona
12/3

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Because of the threat + the obvious acceptability of these bldgs. I think we should accept as is. However, once it's accepted - we do need to ask for more information about the bldgs - dates of construction for each

Accept now, but info needed
M. Hurz 12-3-76

ARCHEOLOGIST

" " alterations
uses for bldgs. they seem to be commercial/residential

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

Accept
Hurz *Accept*
4.12.77 *Cole*
12-3-76

KEEPER

Wm
4/28/77

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry 6.7.77

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

APR 28 1977

INT:2106-74



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

h. bernard askienazy
photographer

124 west 79 street
new york 10024
telephone 787-2776

FRAUNCES TAVERN BLOCK
PHOTOGRAPH #1 / 3

Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New York. Photo Credit: H. Bernard Askienazy, Date of Photo: August, 1974 Neg. #: 124 West 79th Street, New York, New York 10024. View: #1 - aerial view of Fraunces Tavern Block looking towards the southeast. Pearl Street is in the left foreground and

Broad Street is that to the right. The large building in the top righthand corner is 4 New York Plaza.

NOV 29 1976

DOE APR 28 1977



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

please credit

bernard askienazy

photographer

124 west 79 street, new york 10024

(212) 787 2776

to reorder

job # 20-102 frame # 1/8

not to be reproduced
without written permission

Fraunces Tavern Block,
NY, New York County

NOV 29 1976

Photo Credit: Bernard Askienazy - 8/74

Neg. filed at: 124 W. 79th Street, NY, NY

View of buildings on Coenties Slip, Nos. 1,
3, and 5, from left to right.

Photo 2 of 3

DOE APR 28 1977



FOR INFORMATION
SEE AMERICAN CO.
344-0044

60 OFFICE OUTFITTERS CO. 60

CHAIRS

NEW USED
DI. 4-5220

75 MURRAY ST.

DESKS

75 MURRAY ST.

FILES

MOVED TO
75 MURRAY STREET

DI. GBY. 4-5220

DRIVEWAY NO PARKING

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

h. bernard askienazy
photographer

124 west 79 street
new york 10024
telephone 787-2776

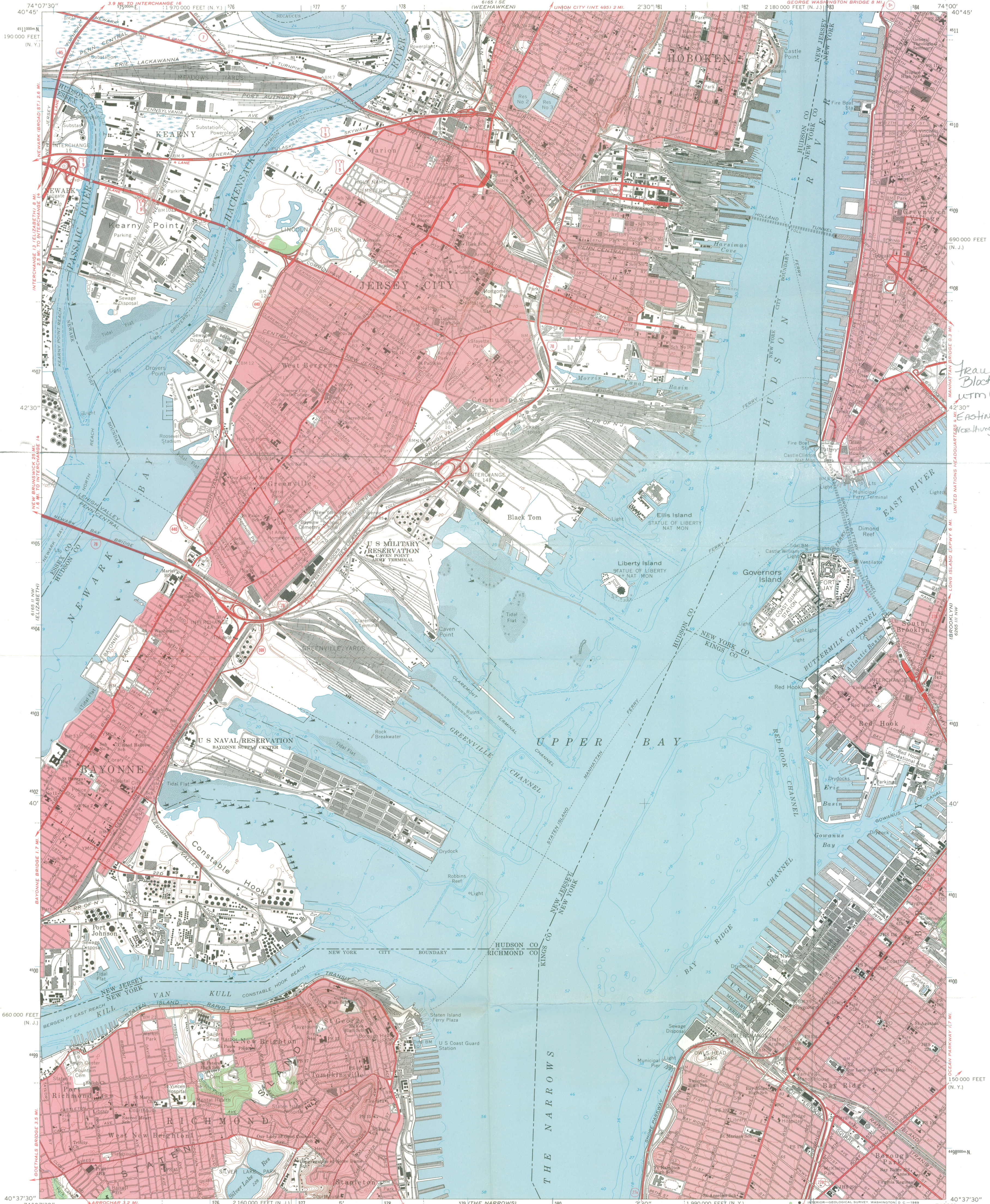
FRAUNCES TAVERN BLOCK

PHOTOGRAPH # ~~5~~ 3 of 3

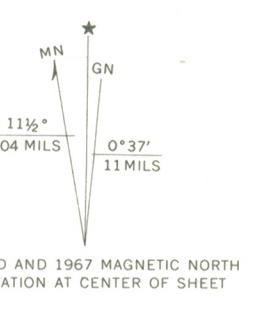
Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New
York. Photo Credit: Bernard Askienazy
Date of Photo: August, 1974
Neg. @: 124 West 79th Street, New
York, New York 10024. View: Front
View of 62, 60 and part of 58 Pearl
Street, from left to right
D & E APR 28 1977 NOV 29 1976

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

JERSEY CITY QUADRANGLE
NEW JERSEY-NEW YORK
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Revised in cooperation with New York Department of Transportation
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, New Jersey Geodetic Survey,
and City of New York Board of Estimate and Apportionment
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods and from USC&GS
Charts T-5111, T-5277, T-5332, T-5450, T-5453, T-5454,
T-5460, T-5461, T-5466, T-5468, T-5469, and T-5470
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1954 and planimetric surveys 1955
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 285, 287, 541,
and 745 (1966). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum. 10,000-foot grids based on
New Jersey coordinate system, and New York coordinate system, Long Island zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 4.4 FEET IN
UPPER BAY AND 4.8 FEET IN NEWARK BAY

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route — U.S. Route — State Route



JERSEY CITY, N.J.—N.Y.
N4037.5—W7400/7.5
1967
AMS 6165 II NE—SERIES V822

Travlers Tavern
Black- Manhattan, NY
UTM References
Easting - 16523/510
Northing - 45706/080



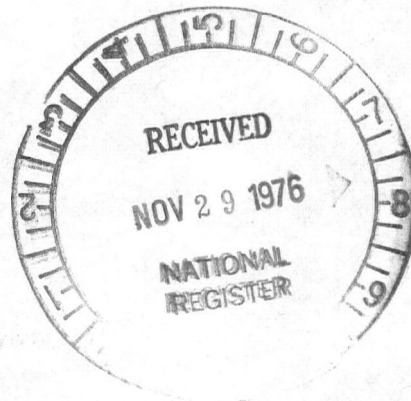


NEW YORK STATE PARKS & RECREATION Agency Building 1, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238 Information 518 474-0456
Orin Lehman, Commissioner

November 22, 1976

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the Register
National Register Office
Dept. of the Interior
18th & C Streets, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Att: Raymond Luce



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination form for the Fraunces Tavern Block, New York County.

We would appreciate your help in reviewing this form as soon as possible. Five of the buildings are currently threatened with demolition and listing on the Register will enable purchase by a qualified developer who wishes to preserve the buildings.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Beebe (EKR)

Lynn A. Beebe
National Register and
Survey Coordinator
Historic Preservation
Field Services

LAB/EKR/jf
Enclosure

H34-880

Mr. Leon Abolafia
150 Nassau Street
New York, New York 14605

FEB 18 1977

INTERIOR DEPT.

FEB 11 1977

SOLICITOR'S
DOCKET

119802

COPIES
2/4/77
2.7.77
Harr
2/16
W
4/16

Dear Property Owner:

As you have probably already been informed by State or local representatives, the property you own is included in a district that has been nominated by the State for listing in the National Register, which is that list of evidences of the past deemed worthy of keeping for the future by the Secretary of the Interior. This nomination is pending in our office.

Since you may not have been aware of potential benefits and provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 when the district including your property was originally considered by the State for nomination, we are sending information material at this time. If you wish to make comments about your property or the district relative to the National Register "Criteria for Evaluation" (see enclosed green leaflet), we will be pleased to consider them. Comments should be made within 30 days of receipt of this letter and should be addressed to Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Information concerning standards for rehabilitation may be obtained from Technical Preservation Services, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Questions concerning the National Register program or the implementation of the historic preservation provisions of the Tax Reform Act should also be addressed to the Keeper of the National Register. Inquiries must include the name of the district (see address label) and property address to be properly handled.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) William J. Murtagh

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Enclosure

bcc: 001 Reading File

880

FNP:HERRINGTON:sle:2-4-77

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN 880

Identical letter sent to :

Mr. Leon Abolafia
150 Nassau Street
New York, New York 10038

Mr. Joseph F. DeMay
28 Water Street
New York, New York 10004

Sons of the Revolution
54 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10004

Uris Building Corporation
10 East 53rd Street
New York, New York 10022

Sylvan Lawrence Company
100 William Street
New York, New York 10038

Pearl-Water Street Realty
38 Pearl Street
New York, New York 1004

The Office of the Undersigned

100 William Street
New York, N. Y. 10038
(212) 344-0044

March 11, 1977

Via Certified Mail
(Return Receipt Requested)

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Sir:

Re: 105 Broad Street
New York City
Your Reference: H34-880

The undersigned, Sylvan Lawrence Company, fee owner of the subject property, acknowledges receipt of your letter dated February 18, 1977.

In said letter you advise that the subject property has been nominated by the State of New York for listing in the National Register and that such nomination is pending in your office.

✓ We wish to advise that we have received no prior advice from the State of New York or the City of New York, or any other local representative, of such nomination.

✓ We would further advise that the subject building owned by us is of no historical or architectural value, as indeed are none of the buildings contained on the city block of which our building forms a part (i. e., the block bounded by Pearl Street, Broad Street, Water Street and Coenties Slip W.) with the exception only of a building known as Fraunces Tavern.

Dr. William J. Murtagh

Page 2

March 11, 1977

It is respectfully submitted that the presence of one building of historical value does not require the designation of all other buildings located on the same city block, as landmarks, which do not have historical or architectural value or require that same be included in the National Register. The subject property was purchased by the undersigned for investment purposes with a view towards demolition and erection of a new commercial building at such time when rental market conditions would improve.

We therefore formally protest any proposed inclusion of the subject property owned by us, or indeed of the entire city block on which it is located, for inclusion in the National Register.

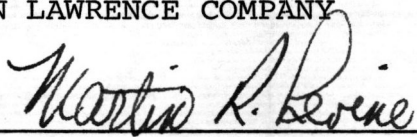
We believe and respectfully submit that the intended purposes of preserving historic structures should be implemented with great particularity, singling out only those structures which themselves are of historic value and that a shotgun approach which would include along with an historic structure, buildings built at a much later period (which in themselves have no historic or architectural interest or value as to merit inclusion in the Federal Register) would be highly inappropriate and inequitable, as to do so would constitute an infringement upon the ownership rights of the parties holding title thereto as well as inhibit and restrict demolition of unwanted structures and replacement thereof by improved modern structures in keeping with the needs and demands of a modern changing city.

Your favorable consideration of the protest herein contained is respectfully requested.

Very truly yours,

SYLVAN LAWRENCE COMPANY

By:


Martin R. Levine, Attorney

MRL:M



Sons of the Revolution

in the State of New York

Fraunces Tavern Museum

Fraunces Tavern

54 PEARL STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10004

(212) 425-1776

Mr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20240

*response sent
3/25/77*
*New York Co.
12/16/76*

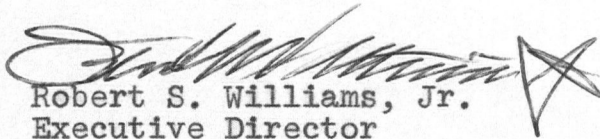
Dear Mr. Murtagh:

We were delighted to receive your letter of February 18, 1977 regarding our district which has been nominated by the State for listing in the National Register, and the enclosed literature.

Our Society has labored hard to preserve that part of the historic block which we have owned since 1904, Fraunces Tavern. We are proud of our achievements, and I am enclosing some of our latest literature on what we have been doing.

Many thanks for your kind letter, and we will be eagerly awaiting word on our pending nominations.

Sincerely yours,


Robert S. Williams, Jr.
Executive Director

March 17, 1977

Enclosure

pb

3/22

1:45

AM
PM

TELEPHONE REPORT

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Elizabeth Ralph

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

NY State

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Frances Tavernn Bloch, NPC

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

According to Elizabeth, NY State notified all owners, including the Sylvan Lawrence Co, on Oct 25, 1976 that the district had been "suggested" as a place that might meet NR criteria. The letter solicited comments on significance at that time, provided gen. info on the NR and the effect of listing.

Normally NY State sends out a second letter notifying owners of the Review Bd's decision - in this case they didn't appear to have.

No owners showed up at Rev. Bd. meeting held in NPC

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Jandl

TITLE

OFFICE

NR

Jandl
3/28/77
Cole
3/29/77
Hamp
3-29-77

MAR 31 1977

H34-880

FNP:HW Jandl:amw:3/27/77:139-35483
bcc: Regional Director, North Atlantic Region]
001-Reading File
880-Jandl
880
cc: Mr. Orin Lehman
Commissioner, Parks and Recreation
Agency Building #1
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12238] w/c inc.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN 880

Mr. Martin R. Levine
Attorney
Sylvan Lawrence Company
100 William Street
New York, New York 10038

Dear Mr. Levine:

Thank you for your letter concerning the proposed listing in the National Register of the Fraunces Tavern Block in New York City.

According to the office of the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, a letter was mailed to your client, the Sylvan Lawrence Company, dated October 25, 1976, notifying them that the district had been suggested as a place that might meet National Register criteria. The letter solicited comments on the significance of the proposed district and provided information on the National Register program and the effect of listing.

A copy of the nomination prepared by New York State is enclosed for your information. The nomination form explains why the entire block was nominated as a total resource. The National Register will be pleased to review any comments you may have on the significance of the property and will provide a copy of your comments to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Mr. Orin Lehman, Commissioner, Parks and Recreation, Agency Building #1, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238.

If the property is accepted for listing in the National Register, notice will be placed in the "Federal Register." If additional information is needed to complete the evaluation, or if it is determined that the property does not meet the National Register criteria for evaluation (section 60.6 of 36 CFR Part 60), the nomination will be returned to the State with explanatory material.

We appreciate your participation in the National Register commenting process.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) William J. Murtagh
William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Enclosure

To: Chas / Dr M / Jerry

FOLLOW-UP SLIP

Date 4-11-77

As you know, this is a "stressful situation". We sent notifications to them by certified mail and received 2 comments, one pro, one con. They have both been answered and a week has elapsed.

I recommend listing the property, we have taken all possible precautions.

NOT TO BE FILED

Signature K. Cole

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered APR 28 1977

Name

Location

Fraunces Tavern Block

**New York
New York County**

Also Notified

**Hon. Jacob K. Javits
Hon. Daniel P. Moynihan
Hon. John M. Murphy
Regional Director, North
Atlantic Region**

**State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Orin Lehman
Commissioner, Parks and Recreation
Agency Building #1
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12238**

Advisory
Council On
Historic
Preservation

HCPS-NR

1522 K Street NW.
Washington D.C.
20005

March 20, 1980

Mr. Richard Rosan
Director
Office of Development
City of New York
225 Broadway
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Rosan:

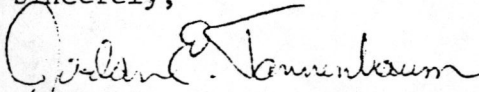
This is in response to your letter of March 11, 1980, in which your agency made a determination that proceeding with an Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) project, an undertaking of the City of New York, will not adversely affect the Fraunces Tavern Block, New York, New York, a property included in the National Register of Historic Places. This determination was made pursuant to Section 800.4(c) of the Council's regulations, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). This project is described on page 8 of the material submitted as "a single transaction involving construction of a 1,000,000 square foot office building at 85 Broad Street; construction of public improvements by the City of New York; improvements to foundation conditions and restoration of facades; and acquisition of buildings."

We have initiated our review of your determination. As you know, Mr. Paul Travis of your office forwarded to us several documents that were inadvertently left out of the package forwarded to us. We will be in contact with you shortly concerning our review of this aspect of the project and its effect on the one identified National Register property. It appears, however, that the city has not as yet completed its responsibilities to identify all properties in the area of the project's proposed environmental impact that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and may be affected by this project. Page 10 of the material notes at least two other properties in the area that appear to have historical, cultural, and archeological significance: the Lower Manhattan Street pattern and the Stadt Huys site.

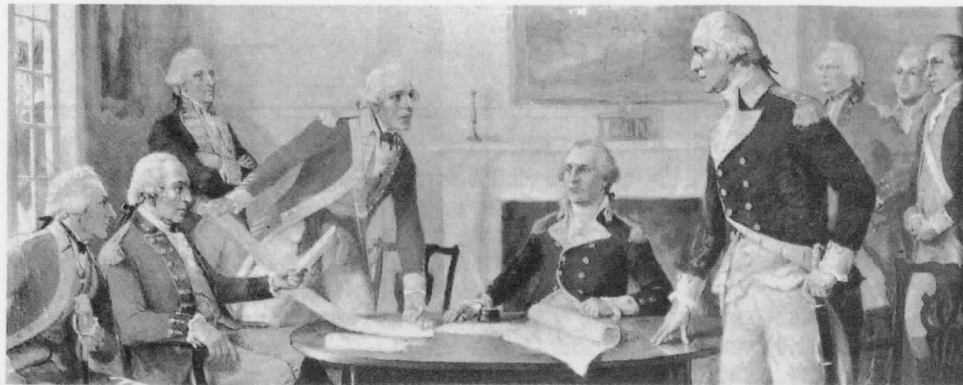
Section 800.4(a) of the Council's regulations sets forth the method of evaluating the significance of such properties. We request that you initiate this evaluation and inform us of your findings as expeditiously as possible. If the evaluation results in a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that the properties are eligible for inclusion in the National Register, we look forward to working with you as you follow the remaining steps in Section 800.4 to evaluate the effect of the project on the properties. Should you have any questions, please call Ms. Amy Schlager of our staff at 202-254-3495.

Thank you for your cooperation. We will be in touch with you as this Section 106 case proceeds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jordan E. Tannenbaum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "T".

Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Chief, Eastern Division
of Project Review



The last British troops having left New York after a round of negotiations, top, Gen. George Washington gathers in 1783 with selected officers of the Revolution, above left, for a solemn farewell in the Long Room of Fraunces Tavern; above right, the same room today. Below left, after the noontime gathering, Washington exits from the building to board a boat from nearby Whitehall, below right, to New Jersey on his journey home. Bottom left, Washington resigns his commission to resume civilian life. But with his 1789 inauguration, bottom right, he has returned both to New York and to public life. Innkeeper Samuel Fraunces, also back in New York after selling his well known tavern and trying farm life in New Jersey, was the first manager of President Washington's official residence.



George Washington's Farewell

with his officers

Fraunces Tavern December 4, 1783



*Fraunces Tavern Museum
today
Manhattan's oldest building*



Gen. George Washington and officers bid each other farewell.

embarked for Nova Scotia and the few who remained were insignificant to be noticed in the crowd. It ended with a joyful day to the officers & soldiers. Long army bands to all the friends of American Independence. While the troops of the enemy still in our waters and the hosts of Tories and refugees were sorely mortified. No joy of smiling faces who thus long been separated by the cruel scour of War. Our not be described. Gen. Robinson gave a public Dinner at which Gen. Wash. & the principal officers of the Army, Citizens were present. On the evening following there was a grand display of fire works & the slower part of it was May night the Goodbye Dinner & for expense anything that ever witnessed in my life.

The time now drew near when General Wash. intended to leave this part of the country for his beloved retreat at Mt. Vernon. On Tuesday the 6th Dec. it was made known to the officers then in New York that Gen. W. intended to commence his journey on that day. At 12 O'clock the officers appeared to Angus's Tavern in Pearl Street where Gen. W. had appointed to meet them and to take his final leave of them. We had been assembled but a few moments when his excellency entered the room. He is emotion

were too strong to be concealed which seemed to be reciprocated by every officer present. After partaking of a slight refreshment in almost breathless silence the Gen. filled his glass with wine and turning to the officers said "With a heart full of love and gratitude I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous & happy as your former ones have been glorious & honorable." After the officers had taken a glass of wine Gen. W. said "I cannot come to each of you but shall feel obliged if each of you will come and take me by the hand" Gen. Knox being nearest to him turned to the Comm^{rs} in Ch^g who supported him in tears were incapable of utterance but grasped his hand when they embraced each other in silence. In the same affectionate manner every officer in the room marched up to him and parted with his general in chief. Such a scene of sorrow and weeping I had never before witnessed and fondly hope I may never be called to witness again. It indeed was too affecting to be of long continuance for the tear of deep sensibility filled every eye and the heart seemed so full that it was ready to burst from its wonted abode. Not a word was uttered to break the solemn silence that prevailed or to interrupt the tenderness of the affecting scene. The simple thought that we were then about to part with the man

who had conducted us through a long and bloody war and under whose conduct the glory and independence of Country had been achieved & that we should see his face no more in this world seemed to me utterly insupportable. But the time of separation had come and waving his hand to his grieving children around him he left the room and passing through a corps of Infantry who were paraded to receive him he walked silently on to white hall where a barge waited to receive him. We all followed in mournful silence to the wharf where a prodigious crowd had assembled to witness the departure of the man who under God had been the great agent in establishing the glory and independence of these United States. As soon as he was seated the barge put off into the river and when having got out into the stream our great and beloved general waved his hat and bade us a silent adieu. We paid him the same affectionate compliments & then returned to the same hotel from whence Gen. W. had so recently departed. Thus closed one of the most interesting and affecting scenes that I ever witnessed a scene so fraught with feeling that it seemed for a time as if it never could be waded from swift and constant reflection. But such is the vice of our constitution

Reproduced here are pages 102-104 of the original manuscript for the *Memoir of Col. Benjamin Tallmadge*. A limited edition was published posthumously in 1858 by his son, Frederick Augustus Tallmadge, who was a state senator and a congressional representative. Benjamin Tallmadge prepared his *Memoir* "at the request of his children". It deals with events of the Revolutionary War.

Col. Tallmadge (1754-1835), a well-known officer of the Continental Army's Second Regiment Light Dragoons and a personal friend of Gen. George Washington, relates on these pages what he witnessed at the general's solemn farewell in Fraunces Tavern.

Tallmadge's *Memoir* does not tell specifically who else besides himself and Gen. Henry Knox were present that Dec. 4 in the tavern. Pieced together from numerous other sources, however, the following list has emerged.

Definitely present: Benjamin Tallmadge, Gen. Henry Knox, Mayor James Duane, the New York City Council (see next paragraph), Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, Gov. George Clinton, Maj. Gen. James Clinton, Col. Benjamin Walker and Col. Humphreys (both aides-de-camp to Washington), Samuel Fraunces.

Probably present: Brig. Gen. Philip Van Cortlandt, Maj. Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Greene, Col. John Lamb, Brig. Gen. John Patterson, Maj. Gen. Jedediah Huntington, Col. Samuel B. Webb, Col. Henry Jackson, Lt. Col. William Hull, Maj. Pettingill, Brig. Gen. Edward Hand, Col. Courtlandt, Lt. Col. William Maxwell, Capt. Samuel Shaw, Lt. Whiting, Maj. Gen. Israel Putnam (presence less than certain because of failing health), Alexander Hamilton, Gen. Philip Schuyler, Gen. Alexander McDougall, Gen. Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Col. Cooke, Maj. Fish, Maj. Burbeck, Maj. Charles Carroll, Lt. Robert Burnett, Nicholas Low, Isaac Sears, Lewis Morris. The New York City Common Council was mostly dormant during the 1776-83 British occupation of the city, but the following members were affirmed by election Dec. 15, 1783; their individual attendance at the farewell gathering has not been verified: Aldermen Benjamin Blagge, Thomas Randall, John Broome (Pres.), William W. Gilbert, William Nielson, Thomas Ivers, Abraham P. Lott, and Assistants Daniel Phoenix, Abraham Van Gelder, Thomas Ten Eyck, Henry Shute, Samuel Johnson, Jeremiah Wool.

William Addleman Ganoe's book on *The History of the United States Army* suggests the officers' appearance:

"Gathered in the high-ceilinged room were the infantry officers with their blue cutaway coats faced with white, their white buttons, silver epaulets, black gaiters, and white-braided cocked hats with black plumes; the artillery officers with their scarlet facings, yellow buttons, gold epaulets and yellow-braided cocked hats with black and red plumes; and here and there a general officer in his blue and buff and with stars upon his gold epaulets."

The weekly *Independent Gazette* newspaper on Saturday, Dec. 6, 1783 said Washington "was attended to his barge by his Excellency the Governor; a number of General and other officers (von Steuben among them), and a great concourse of people. At his departure he was saluted with a discharge of 13 cannon from the fort."

Washington was rowed across the Hudson River to Paulus Hook (now Jersey City), N.J. The general went to Philadelphia, then to Annapolis, where he resigned his commission to Congress on Dec. 23 and then proceeded to his estate in Virginia. Tallmadge sensed it was unlikely "that we should see his face no more." Indeed, Washington was back in New York in 1789 — to take the oath of office as President.

NR Data Sheet

DATE: Reviewer INITIALS:

NR DOE APR 28 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Fraunces Tavern Block

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER bounded by Pearl, Water, Broad Sts., and Coenties Slip

CITY, TOWN New York

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 17th

STATE New York 36

VICINITY OF

COUNTY code

New York 61

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR

Substantially intact-1
☒ unknown - 4
 not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR

Substantially intact-2
 unknown - 5
 not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS

Substantially intact-3
 unknown - 6
 Not applicable-9

☒ Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -

☒ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☒ FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED
 Unexcavated

UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED
 Reconstructed
 Excavated

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☒ MOVED
 Unknown

ACCESS -

☒ Yes-restricted

Yes-unrestricted

No access

Unknown

historic district?

☒ YES

NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE:

YES

☒ NO

Saved?

YES

NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- residential, commercial

now- commercial

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC

AGRICULTURE

☒ ARCHITECTURE

ART

COMMERCE

COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION

ECONOMICS

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LAW/Gov't/politics

LITERATURE

MILITARY

MUSIC

PHILOSOPHY

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION

SCIENCE

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER (SPECIFY)

entertainment

health

recreation

settlement

socio/cultural

urban & commun

planning

Claims

"first" YES NO

"oldest" YES NO

"only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 18th - 19th C

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

16 brick structures grouped to create block; 3 1/2 - 6 stories, various roof types; numerous decorative features include arched windows, cast-iron storefronts, pilasters, brackets, and columns; various elements of Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival and the Victorian styles.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

Unscanned Materials

- Drowne, Henry Russell. *The Story of Fraunces Tavern*. New York: Fraunces Tavern, 1966.
- The Sons of the Revolution. *Fraunces Tavern: Annual Report 1973*. New York: S. D. Scott Printing Co., Inc., 1973.
- The Sons of the Revolution. *A Renewed Sense of Public Service: Fraunces Tavern Museum*. New York: Unknown, 1975.