



The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

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COMMISSION APPROVES EXPANSION OF MANHATTAN'S NOHO HISTORIC DISTRICT

Extended District Includes 56 Commercial, Residential and Civic Buildings Dating to the 19th and Early 20th Centuries That Reflect Range of Architectural Styles and Changing History of the Area

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission today increased the number of buildings with historic district status in the NoHo section of Manhattan to 223 from 167, as the panel voted unanimously to expand an existing district in the neighborhood. The diverse collection of 56 newly designated buildings, called the NoHo Extension, builds on the NoHo and NoHo East historic districts, which were approved in 2000 and 2003, respectively.



“One of the more remarkable traits of this district is that its buildings vividly demonstrate their adaptability over the past 150 years,” said Commission Chairman Robert B. Tierney. “They have served during different periods as single-family residences, warehouses, factories and stores, offices, art galleries, studio spaces for artists, theaters and apartment buildings, and their architectural styles are similarly diverse, creating an eclectic and historically rich neighborhood.”

The extended district, which initially was an enclave for the City’s well-to-do residents, is located between Lafayette Street to the west and the Bowery to the east, and between East 4th and Bond streets to the north and south. The earliest structures include several residences that date to the late 1820s, but most of the buildings were constructed between the 1860s and early 1900s when the area was one of the city’s major commercial and manufacturing centers.

The district’s first residences, two of which remain relatively unchanged at 26 and 51 Bond Street, were designed in the Federal and Greek Revival styles. More than a decade after they were built, many of these single-family houses were subdivided into apartments and boarding rooms. Other small buildings that followed, such as a store-and-loft building at 27 Great Jones Street, were designed in the Italianate style.

By the late 19th century, larger-scale commercial lofts had emerged as the dominant building type in the neighborhood. Examples include a six-story Renaissance Revival store-and-loft building at 21 Bond St., and two seven-story four-bay lofts at 20 Bond Street and 47 Great Jones Street that were designed by Cleverdon & Putzel, the architectural firm that was also responsible for several buildings in various styles elsewhere in the district.



The neighborhood is also home to the first branch of the New York Free Circulating Library, which in 1882 converted and moved to a Federal-era rowhouse at 49 Bond St. The branch closed, in 1919 and the

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building later adapted for commercial use. Residential tenants first began to move into the loft buildings in the 1950s as commercial activity declined, and by 1980, they outnumbered commercial tenants and brought a new vitality to the neighborhood. At that time, it attracted such celebrated artists as Cy Twombly, who lived and worked at 356 Bowery, Chuck Close at 20 Bond St., Robert Mapplethorpe at 24 Bond St. and Jean-Michel Basquiat, who leased 57 Great Jones from Andy Warhol. Basquiat died of a heroin overdose at this address in 1988.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is responsible for protecting and preserving New York City's architecturally, historically and culturally significant buildings and sites. Since its creation in 1965, LPC has granted landmark status to some 25,000 buildings, including 1,189 individual landmarks, 110 interior landmarks, nine scenic landmarks and 92 historic districts in all five boroughs.