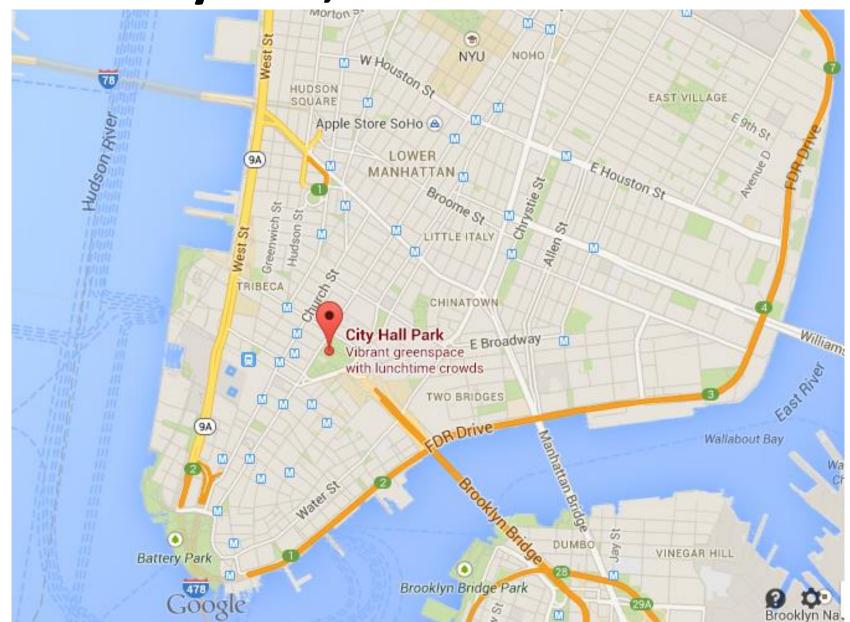
Loan of the plaster model of Thomas Jefferson (1833) by Pierre-Jean David D'Angers

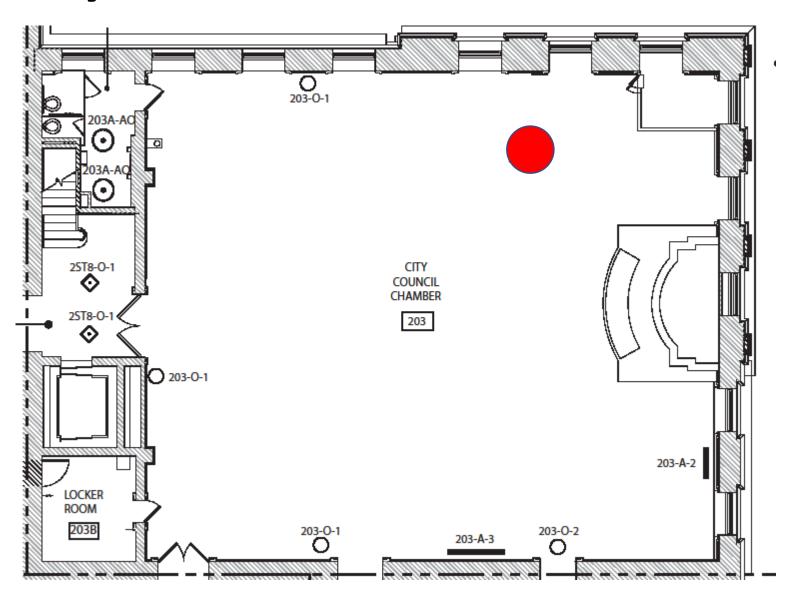
Submitted by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services on behalf of the New York City Council and the New-York Historical Society.



Location: City Hall, Lower Manhattan



City Council Chamber Plan



City Council Chamber Photo



Artwork Details

Artist: Pierre-Jean David D'Angers

Date: 1833

Medium: Painted plaster with metal armature

Dimensions:

artwork: 85"H x 37"W x 35.5"D

wooden base: 4.5"H x 34.5" x 34.5"

pedestal: 56.75"H x 37.25" x 37.25"

Artwork History: The Donor

Uriah Phillips Levy (1792-1862) was one of the first Jewish officers in the United States Navy and a prominent citizen of New York.

Portrait of Commodore Uriah Phillips Levy
The National Museum of the U.S. Navy

Artwork History: The Commission

Circa 1833, Levy privately commissioned Pierre-Jean David D'Angers, France's most prominent sculptor of the time, to create a statue to memorialize Jefferson because of legislation Jefferson had introduced establishing religious freedom in the armed forces.

Artwork History: The Bronze Statue

Levy presented the bronze statue to Congress as a gift to the American people. It is on display in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.



Artwork History: The Plaster Model

Levy donated the plaster model from which the bronze artwork was made to the people of New York. The model was installed in the Governor's Room of City Hall circa 1834. It was later moved to the Rotunda of City Hall before being installed in the City Council Chamber in 1915.

Artwork History: The Plaster Model

In 2010-11, as part of the City Hall rehabilitation project, the plaster model was restored. At that time, it was noted that the artwork was often subject to damage due to the heavy use of the room. To try to mitigate this issue, the artwork was given a new, higher pedestal and a metal guard rail was installed around it.

The Proposed Loan

To protect the artwork and provide opportunities to exhibit it within an educational and historical context, the New-York Historical Society has agreed to take the artwork on long-term loan.

The Proposed Loan

The Society would hire Marshall Fine Arts to crate the sculpture using an L-shaped skid slat crate.



