

National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York Headquarters Interiors

215 East 71st Street (aka 215-217 East 71st Street), Manhattan
Tax Map Block 1426 Lot 10

Built: 1929-30

Architect: Richard Henry Dana, Jr.

Style: Colonial Revival

Proposed Action: Propose for Calendaring December 12, 2017



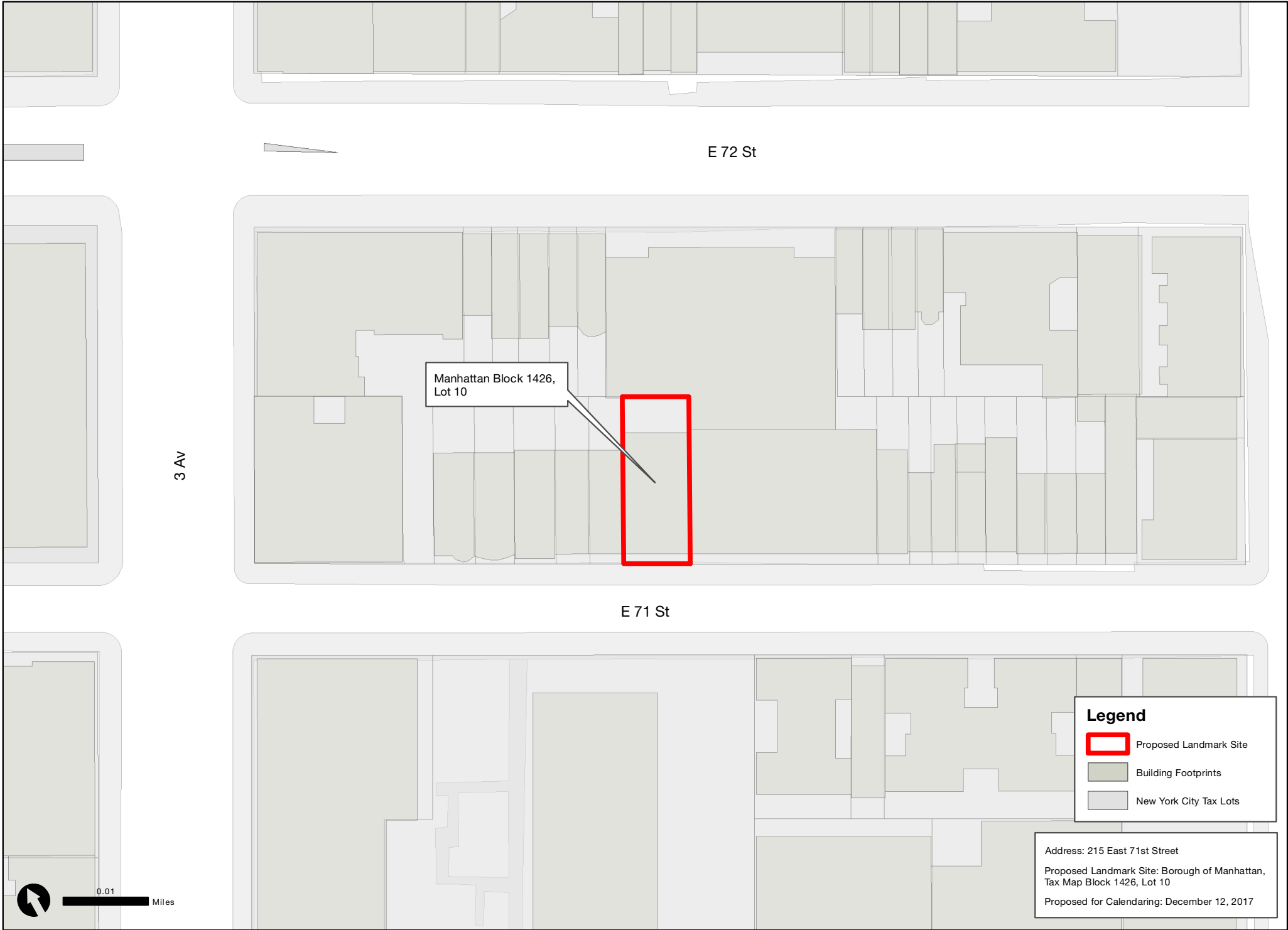
Dining Room, 2017 (LPC)

The National Society of Colonial Dames of America was founded in Philadelphia in 1891 as a federation of Corporate Societies whose members are descendants of significant figures in the development of the nation during the colonial period. As part of their mission, the National Societies have been in the forefront of historic preservation. The National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York has been responsible for the Van Cortlandt Mansion in the Bronx, a designated NYC Landmark, since 1896. Another part of the Society's mission is promoting knowledge of the history of the colonial period through their collections and educational programs which are available to the public. Much of this mission has been carried out in their headquarters building at 215 East 71st Street, where the building's architect Richard Henry Dana, Jr. incorporated references and borrowed details from 18th century houses located from Maine to South Carolina as well as from England.

The areas proposed for the Commission's calendar include the main foyer, Members' Dressing Room, and Dining Room on the first floor; the central stair hall and monumental staircase that connects the publicly accessible rooms of the first, second, and third floors; the Members' Room and Members' Lounge on the second floor; and the Exhibition Hall on the third floor.




These spaces freely combine common elements of 18th-century interior design such as low paneled wainscots with molded chair rails, multi-light sash windows with deep paneled reveals and window seats, paneled doors with Colonial Revival reproduction hinges and locksets, and crown moldings, with more elaborate decorative elements of the period, into a cohesive design reflective of the taste and styles of the colonial era as interpreted through a 20th century lens.

The National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York Headquarters was designed in 1929 by the noted architect Richard Henry Dana, Jr. a specialist in colonial architecture.



Manhattan Block 1426,
Lot 10

Legend

-  Proposed Landmark Site
-  Building Footprints
-  New York City Tax Lots

Address: 215 East 71st Street
Proposed Landmark Site: Borough of Manhattan,
Tax Map Block 1426, Lot 10
Proposed for Calendaring: December 12, 2017