



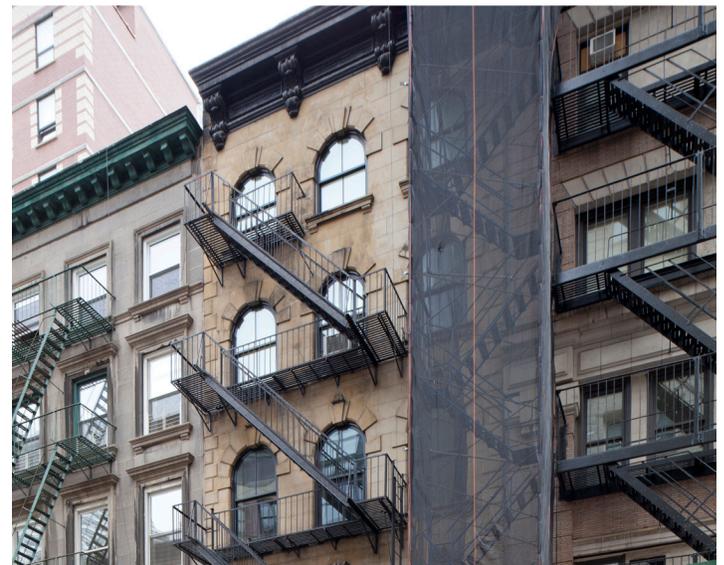
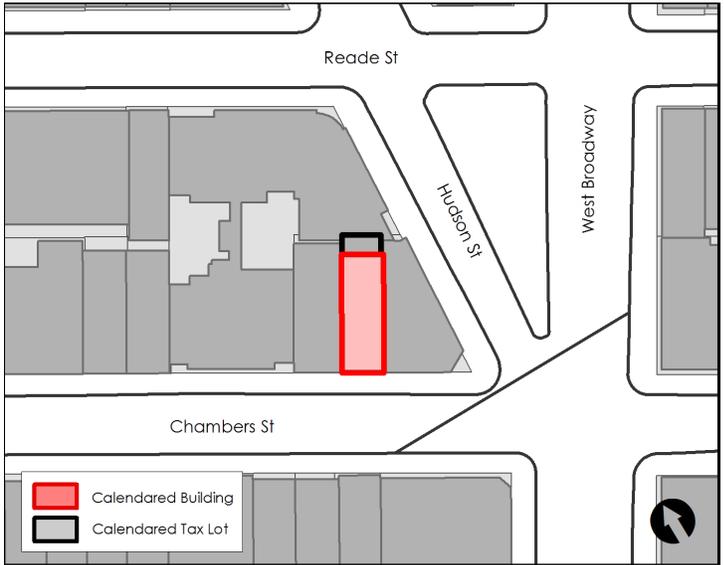
Landmarks Preservation Commission

143 Chambers Street Building

143 Chambers Street, Manhattan
Manhattan Block: 00140; Lot: 0003

Backlog Initiative: Addressing 95 Properties Manhattan A Group 1 Items

Manhattan Community Board 1
Public Hearing Date(s): 09/19/1989



Photos 2014

Special Public Hearings

The Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the backlog of buildings in the Borough of Manhattan on **November 5, 2015** and encourages interested parties to submit written testimony in advance of that hearing. Each speaker will be given three minutes total to speak, and in that time may address all of the items within Manhattan A Group 1, just particular items, or add comments to support written testimony. In order to conduct efficient hearings, we ask speakers to register in advance, and submit their written statements and materials that will be read at the hearing by **October 29, 2015** to backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov. If you are unable to attend the hearing, your written submissions will be entered into the record and distributed to the Commissioners.

If you have questions about this property or the hearing process please contact backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov or call (212) 669-7817. If you would like more information about this property, please see the research file summary (over) and go to our website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/backlog95>) and click on the link for this building's research file.



**Landmarks Preservation
Commission**

143 Chambers Street Building Description

Landmark Type: Individual

Built: 1860-61

Architect: Not determined

Style: Italian Renaissance

Research Staff Hearing Statement (1989)

143 CHAMBERS STREET BUILDING, Manhattan

This imposing five-story Italianate store and loft building, on the north side of Chambers Street between Hudson and West Streets, was constructed as a speculative investment by the Estate of Ellis Potter in 1860-61. It is characteristic of the store and loft type which flourished in the 1850s and early 1870s as the wholesale textile and drygoods district expanded northward from Cortlandt Street spurred by the development of the Hudson River waterfront and the construction of the Hudson River Railroad terminal at Hudson and Chambers Streets in 1851. These loft buildings provided large, open interior spaces for the storage of goods and well-lit ground-story showrooms for the display of merchandise. Their facades were almost uniformly designed in the Italian Renaissance inspired palazzo style, thought particularly appropriate for commercial buildings because of its associations with Italy's merchant princes.

A distinguished example of the palazzo style, 143 Chambers Street has a richly embellished dark brown sandstone facade set above a cast-iron and glass storefront. Its cast-iron ground story is articulated by Corinthian piers and columns which support a wide entablature with a modillioned cornice. Portions of the old cast-iron, wood, and glass storefronts survive, notably the paneled iron bulkhead beneath the west show window and the lunette transoms. The upper stories are framed by quoins and have round-arched window openings. On the second story, the windows have molded surrounds which are supported by paired pilasters and enriched by console keystones. The windows on the top three stories have keyed surrounds. Inverted bell flowers are set above the third story keystones. The building is crowned by a heavy cornice supported by ornate console brackets.