



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 20, 1991

Guy V. Molinari
Borough President of Staten Island
Staten Island Borough Hall
Staten Island, New York 10301

Re: see attached list

Dear Borough President Molinari:

On Tuesday, October 1, 1991, beginning at 9:30 A.M. in the 23rd Conference Room of the offices of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, 225 Broadway, Manhattan, the Landmarks Preservation Commission will consider the proposed designations of the above listed properties as New York City Landmarks.

You or your representative are cordially invited to attend the proceedings and offer any testimony concerning the proposed designations.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan R. Olshansky, Chief of Staff, at (212) 553-1128. Please call Ms. Marion Cleaver at (212) 553-1136 before September 30, 1991, to arrange for speaking time. Or if you prefer, you may send us a statement which will be read into the record on October 1, 1991. If you desire to FAX your comments, the Commission's FAX number is (212) 964-2409.

Sincerely yours,

Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

MEU:MGC:hpc
Enc.

List for Borough President of Staten Island Guy V. Molinari

St. George Historic District

Horton's Row: 411, 413, 415, 417 Westervelt Avenue, St. George
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lots: 25/5, 4, 3, 1

August Schoverling House, 344 Westervelt Avenue, St. George
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 38/35

Middletown Township District School 2 (later Public School 15)
98 Grant Street, Tompkinsville
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 506/81

Westfield Township District School 7 (later Public School 4)
4210 Arthur Kill Road, Charleston
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 7315/14

Nicholas Killmeyer Store and Residence, 4321 Arthur Kill Road, Charleston
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 7400/1

St. Peter's German Evangelical Church at Kreischerville
(now Free Magyar Reformed Church), Parish Hall and Rectory,
19-23 Winant Place and 25 Winant Place, Charleston
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lots: 7400/171 & 166

Kreischerville Workers' Houses: 71 & 73, 75 & 77, 81 & 83, 85 & 87 Kreischer Street,
Charleston
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lots: 7590/131, 134, 136, 137 & 138 and the portions of
sidewalk and tree lawn immediately adjacent to these buildings, extending to the roadbed of
Kresicher Street.

122 Androvette Street House, Charleston
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 7596/70

Westfield Township District School 5 (now Public School 1 Annex)
58 Summit Street, Tottenville
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 7898/1

New York Public Library: Tottenville Branch, 7448 Amboy Road, Tottenville
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 7899/1

St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, 7558 Amboy Road, Tottenville
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 7915/1

Drake-Dehart House, 134 Main Street, Tottenville
Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot: 8020/63

Rutan-Journey House, 7647 Amboy Road, Tottenville Landmark Site: Tax Map Block/Lot:
8050/13



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 20, 1991

Alfred Brumme, Chair
Staten Island Community Board 3
277 Nelson Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10308

Re: See enclosed list

Dear Chairman Brumme:

On Tuesday, October 1, 1991, beginning at 9:30 A.M. in the 23rd Conference Room of the offices of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, 225 Broadway, Manhattan, the Landmarks Preservation Commission will consider the proposed designations of the above listed properties as New York City Landmarks.

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Sincerely yours,

Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

MEU:MGC:hpc
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List for Staten Island Community Board 3, Alfred Brumme, Chair

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 20, 1991

Hon. Alfred C. Cervillo, III
88 New Dorp Plaza
Staten Island, NY 10306

Re: See enclosed list

Dear Council Member Cervillo:

On Tuesday, October 1, 1991, beginning at 9:30 A.M. in the 23rd Conference Room of the offices of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, 225 Broadway, Manhattan, the Landmarks Preservation Commission will consider the proposed designations of the above listed properties as New York City Landmarks.

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 20, 1991

Hon. John J. Marchi
358 St. Marks Place
Staten Island, NY 10301

Re: See enclosed list

Dear State Senator Marchi:

On Tuesday, October 1, 1991, beginning at 9:30 A.M. in the 23rd Conference Room of the offices of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, 225 Broadway, Manhattan, the Landmarks Preservation Commission will consider the proposed designations of the above listed properties as New York City Landmarks.

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Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

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List for State Senator John J. Marchi

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225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 20, 1991

Hon. Susan Molinari
1305 73rd Street
Brooklyn, NY 11228

Re: See enclosed list

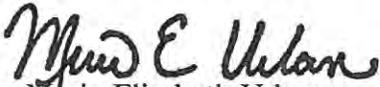
Dear Congresswoman Molinari:

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Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

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List for Congresswoman Susan Molinari

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 20, 1991

Hon. Robert A. Straniere
182 Rose Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10306

Re: See enclosed list

Dear Assemblyman Straniere:

On Tuesday, October 1, 1991, beginning at 9:30 A.M. in the 23rd Conference Room of the offices of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, 225 Broadway, Manhattan, the Landmarks Preservation Commission will consider the proposed designations of the above listed properties as New York City Landmarks.

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Sincerely yours,

Merin Elizabeth Urban
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List for Assemblyman Robert A. Straniere

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 15, 1991

Joseph P. Trivisonno, R.A.,
Staten Island Borough Superintendent
Department of Buildings
Borough Hall
Staten Island, New York 10301

Dear Superintendent Trivisonno:

Attached is a list of the items in the Borough of Staten Island that have been calendared for consideration as New York City Landmarks at a public hearing on October 1, 1991. The BIS computer has been updated to reflect the calendared nature of these items.

Sincerely yours,


Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

MEU:MGC:hpc
Enc.

List for Joseph P. Trivisonno, Staten Island Borough Superintendent
Department of Buildings

St. George Historic District

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 15, 1991

Ms. Lenore Norman,
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
N.Y.C. Department of Buildings
60 Hudson Street, 14th Floor
New York, NY 10013

Dear Ms. Norman:

Attached is a list of the items that have been calendared for consideration as New York City Landmarks at a public hearing on October 1, 1991. The BIS computer has been updated to reflect the calendared nature of these items.

Sincerely yours,


Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

MEU:MGC:hpc
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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

August 15, 1991

Hon. Rudolph J. Rinaldi
Commissioner, Dept. of Buildings
60 Hudson Street, 14th Floor
New York, NY 10013

Dear Commissioner Rinaldi:

Attached is a list of the items that have been calendared for consideration as New York City Landmarks at a public hearing on October 1, 1991. The BIS computer has been updated to reflect the calendared nature of these items.

Sincerely yours,


Merin Elizabeth Urban
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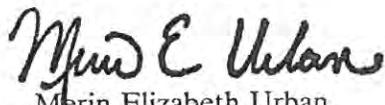
Richard L. Schaffer, Chair
City Planning Commission
22 Reade Street
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Schaffer:

Attached is a list of the items that will be considered for designation as New York City Landmarks at a public hearing on October 1, 1991.

If you have any questions concerning the proposed designations or the public hearing, please call Joan R. Olshansky, Chief of Staff, at (212) 553-1128.

Sincerely yours,


Merin Elizabeth Urban
Executive Director

MEU:MGC:hpc
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List for Richard L. Schaffer, Chair, City Planning Commission

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

Note:
Owner

If you wish to speak, please complete and return to the person at the Speaker's Information Desk

Item # 6

LP# 1869

Item Name 122 ANDROUETTE STREET.

In favor of Designation Against Designation Unsure of Position

(Print) Name OWEN REITER

Mailing Address 122 ANDROUETTE STREET SE, NY
10309

Representing myself + my wife

#####

If you would rather leave a statement, complete and return to the person at the Speaker's Information Desk, or mail the form to the Commission at the above address

Multiple horizontal lines for writing a statement.

For LPC use only: testified? y_/ n_

Date 10/1/91



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

If you wish to speak, please complete and return to the person at the Speaker's Information Desk

Item # 6

LP# 1869

Item Name 122 Androvetta Street House, 122 Androvetta St, Charleston

In favor of Designation Against Designation Unsure of Position

(Print) Name CHARLES L. SACHS

Mailing Address 44 VASSAR ST., STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314

Representing _____

#####

If you would rather leave a statement, complete and return to the person at the Speaker's Information Desk, or mail the form to the Commission at the above address

Multiple horizontal lines for writing a statement.

For LPC use only: testified? y_ / n_



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

225 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

(212) 553-1100

November 26, 1991

Ms. Patricia M. Gentile
59 Elmira Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10314

Dear Ms. Gentile:

Thank you for your letter in support of the proposed designation of the properties at 122 Androvette Street, 71-87 Kreisler Street, St. Peter's Evangelical Reformed Church, and Public School #4 as New York City landmarks. I am sorry that I did not have the opportunity to respond sooner.

The staff of the Landmarks Preservation Commission is preparing a detailed report to present to the Commissioners for their review. Your comments have been added to the file maintained on these buildings, and will be considered by the Commissioners when they discuss the proposed designation.

The Commission appreciates your interest in its work.

Sincerely yours,

Joan R. Olshansky
Chief of Staff

JRO:ch

cc: Marjorie Pearson

59 Elmira Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10314
September 25, 1991

The Honorable Laurie Beckelman
Landmarks Preservation Commission
225 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

RECEIVED
by CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
SEP 26 1991
LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Dear Madam Chairwoman,

I am writing this letter to convey my support for the designation of New York City Landmark Status for the properties at:

122 Androvette Street
71-87 Kreischer Street
St. Peter's Evangelical Reformed Church at
19-25 Winant Place
Nicholas Killmeyer Store at 4321 Arthur Kill Road
Public School #4 at 4210 Arthur Kill Road

In my opinion these properties are a part of the rich and interesting past of the Charleston area. Once known as Kreischerville, the community prospered around the rich kaolin clay beds of the area. Under the direction of a far-sighted immigrant known as Balthasar Kreischer, the area and its people prospered by mining this clay and producing bricks that are still present today throughout the New York City area. In memory of these hard working laborers and Mr. Kreischer, it would be fitting to see all of these buildings given Landmark Status. Although the structures do not have the ornate architectural adornments of many New York City Landmarks, I believe that they contain the strong and simple qualities of the people who built and utilized them. From the cozy air of the Workers Housing at 71-87 Kreischer Street, to the somber educational atmosphere of Public School #4, it is apparent that these and the other proposed landmarks, contain the spirit of the Kreischerville people.

It should also be noted that the area now known as Charleston, is being consumed by the commercial businesses which have flourished due to the zoning of the region. This zoning has brought about an array of noisy, dirty, and obnoxious enterprises that have helped to seal the fate of this once bucolic community. In an effort to not only preserve a sense of history, but also to save a sense of community, I believe it is just to landmark these structures and their properties.

Landmark Status also has another purpose. It should be realized that these properties could and would serve as educational tools for present and future students. Youngsters from the surrounding schools such as PS1, PS 3, Tottenville High School, and the students of PS25D (the current occupants of the former PS 4) will all gain valuable insight into the history of Staten Island. Visitors to Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve, which is located in the Charleston area, will also be able to view, appreciate, and learn from these historic properties if they are given Landmark Status.

When all is said and done, it would be quite a shame for these structures and properties to be lost to the wrecking ball, when they could be preserved now for present and future generations to see and enjoy.

Sincerely,



Patricia M. Gentile

122 ANDROVETTE STREET HOUSE, 122 Androvette Street, Charleston, Staten Island

While the identity of the original owner of the house at 122 Androvette Street and its earliest history have not been definitively determined, the building does appear to be the oldest surviving structure in Charleston. The 122 Androvette Street House may be the dwelling indicated on a 1797 map as belonging to landowner "P. Androvet" [sic]; it is shown to be one of only two houses located in the then sparsely populated area. The late Staten Island borough historian, Loring McMillen, undertook an extensive investigation of the framing and other interior features of the house, leading him to postulate a construction date of c. 1790. His investigations also indicated that the present rear or southern elevation was the original facade, a siting which oriented the house toward the inlet identified as "Toppers Creek" on the early map.

The size and shape of the house, the tall gabled roof, and the placement of the windows are characteristic of the house's date. Distinctive features of the house, which further identify its late eighteenth-century vernacular character, include the short second-story windows and the large chimney (obscured by later siding) located on the western side of the building. Later additions have been added at the rear and at the east side.

The 122 Androvette Street House and the acreage originally associated with it (the current lot is roughly seventy-five feet by 100 feet) were later acquired by Balthazar Kreischer, founder of the B. Kreischer & Sons brick manufacturing company. It was one of the many parcels he purchased in the village, then known as Androvetville, beginning in 1853. The location Kreischer selected for the fire brick factory was a short distance south of Toppers Creek, while the area on the north side of the creek was, over a period of time, developed as a large complex of workers' housing encompassing some large multi-unit structures and simple double houses. It is possible that the 122 Androvette Street House was one of several early dwellings utilized for the factory's first workers. The 122 Androvette Street House is a rare survivor recalling the early history of the area prior to its transformation into the factory-related village of Kreischerville.



Charleston Civic Association
84 Androvette St.
Staten Island, NY
10309

1869



1 copy

September 30, 1991

New York Landmarks Preservation Commission
225 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10007

Re: 122 Androvette Street, Charleston
71, 73, 75, 77, 81, 83, 85, & 87 Kreisler St., Charleston

Dear Landmarks Commission,

It has come to our attention that the owners of the above listed properties have decided that they do not wish to have their properties receive landmark status at this time. The Charleston Civic Association respects their decision and wishes to go on record as backing this decision made by the owners. It is our wish that the owners be able to do with their properties whatever they see fit. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Rachel Melendez

Rachel Melendez
Secretary

122 Androvette Street House, SI

RESEARCH FILE

02/11/00 PUBLIC ACCESS PROPERTY PROFILE OVERVIEW BISPIQ70
122..... ANDROVETTE STREET..... 5 STATEN ISLAND 10309 BIN# 5109854

ANDROVETTE STREET 122 - 122 HEALTH AREA : 08 TAX BLK: 7596.
CENSUS TRACT: 226 TAX LOT: 70...
COMMUNITY BD: 503 CONDO :
MULTI STRUCT: 1 CUI NO :

=====
DOB SPECIAL PLACE NAME : 1 PROPERTY RECORD(S)
DOB BUILDING REMARKS :
FINANCE OCCUPANCY CODE : A1-1 FAMILY DWELLING LANDMARK STATUS: NO

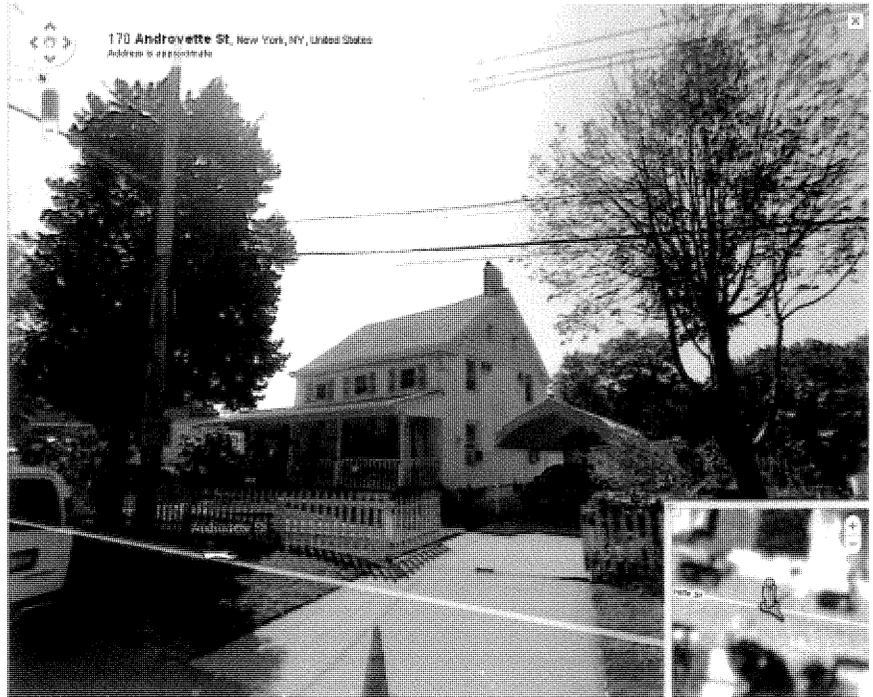
COUNTS FOR THIS BIN RECORD VERIFIED : NO
ACTIONS : 3 , 1 JOBS/FILINGS (PF4) SPECIAL STATUS :
VIOLATIONS DOB : 1 , 0 OPEN LOCAL LAW : NO
ECB : 0 , 0 OPEN (PF12) SRO : NO
COMPLAINTS : 2 , 0 OPEN (PF11)

ENTER KEY= ACTIONS, (TYPE :) PF 5/6/7 = NEW ADDR/BIN/BLK-LOT
PF 3 = ELEVATORS PF8 = BOILERS PF 9/10 = BROWSE BIN/BLK-LOT
PF 14 = LPC/HPD/LOFT USE ONLY PF 15 = BROWSE 1 PROPERTY RECORDS
PF 16 = ADDTN'L PROPERTY INFO

122 Androvette St
Staten Island, NY 10309



122 Androvette St
Staten Island, NY 10309



122 Androvette St (SI) 2008 [Google Street View]



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

20 VESEY STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007

566-7577

May 14, 1987

Owen Reiter
122 Androvette Street
Staten Island, NY 10309

Dear Mr. Reiter:

Staff members of the Research Department have recently completed their evaluation of the 122 Androvette Street House.

Despite its age, the house has been very heavily altered over the years and consequently has lost its architectural integrity. Therefore, based on our professional judgment, it does not appear to meet the criteria for designation as a New York City landmark. In a city the size of New York, a high degree of selectivity must be exercised in regard to potential Landmark properties.

For further information on the National Register of Historic Places (a Federal Program), please contact Merrill Hesch at (212) 977-8243.

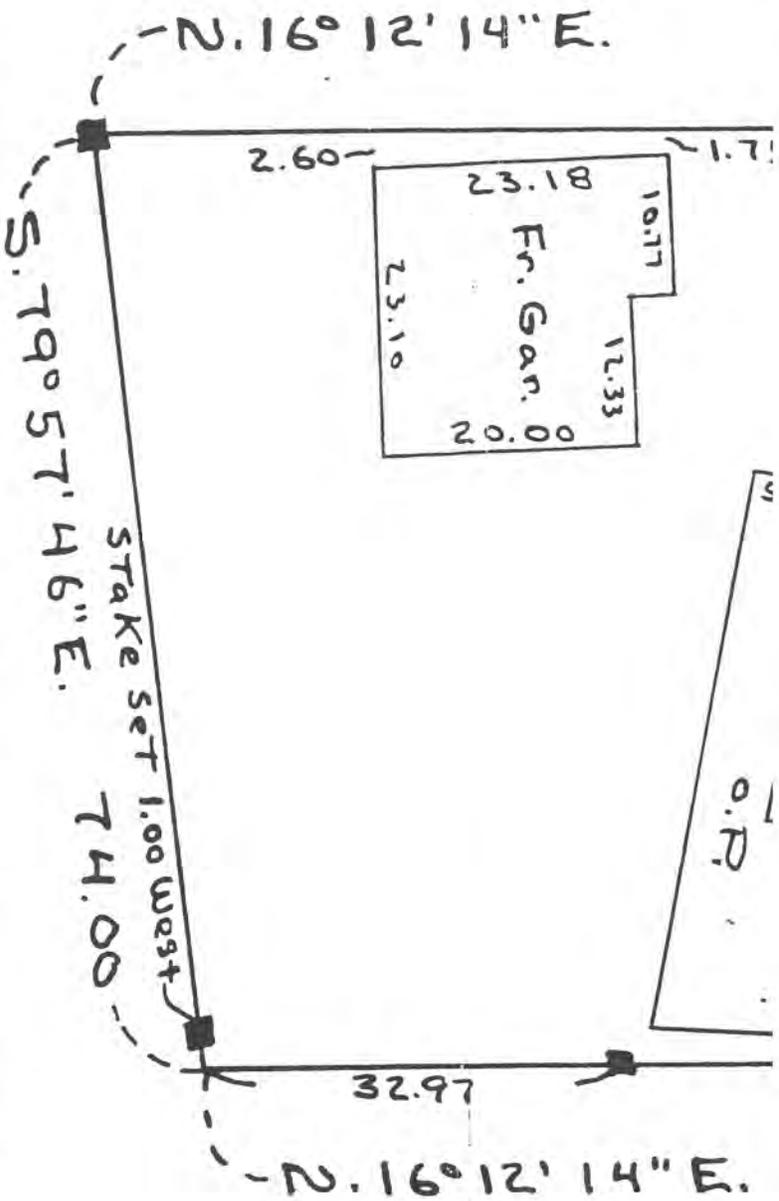
The Commission has designated two trees as official New York City landmarks. One is the Weeping Beech Tree in Flushing, Queens and the other one is the Magnolia Grandiflora in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. If you would like to nominate a tree as a landmark, please complete the enclosed request for evaluation.

We appreciate your interest in preservation and in the work of the Commission.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Pearson
Director of Research

LP-1869 -10/1/91



MAP of SURVEY of PROPERTY
 in the
 Boro. of Richmond, City of New York
 6-21-62.
 William C. Khan C.S., N.Y.S.
 WILLIAM A. KANE
 CITY & LAND SURVEYOR
 17 Carolina Pl., S.I., N.Y.
 TAX BLOCK 7596, Lot 70.

Part of Island history leaves with coup

By TERRY GOLWAY
Advance Staff Writer

To anybody else, maybe, Charleston still seems like the city's answer to Mayberry RFD, what with horses roaming the streets and farm-size gardens growing in back yards. But to Alexander and Rose Kosa, well, things just ain't the way they used to be.

Not that they're complaining. Both say they know that there is such a thing as progress, and they know that progress is tipping toward them through the woods and ponds that still remain nearby. So they're selling their 200-year-old home, which had gotten too big for them anyway, and heading for a smaller place in New Jersey.

They'll take with them more than just a little of their neighborhood's irreplaceable past.

The Kosas are a throwback to a time when Charleston was a place called Kreisshererville and people lived in homes supplied by the lord and master of the area, the Kreischer Brick Works, and the language of first choice was Hungarian. Times may have changed, the brick yard may have closed up 50 years ago, but the Free Magyar (Hungarian) Reformed Church, with its 100-year-old pipe organ, and the old company houses are still lively reminders of the town's past. So are the Kosas.

Alexander Kosa was born 70 years ago on Androvette Street, a narrow, dusty alley where the homes and even a few families date back to the days when the Kreischer family ruled the manor. He still lives on the street, across from the home he was born in, as telling a testimony as any of his feeling for his hometown.

Kosa and his brother, John, were christened in the Free Magyar Church just as the Hungarians were about to displace the German Lutherans who had settled Charleston. Word had spread to the banks of the Danube that there was work to be had in the village along the Arthur Kill, and so the Hungarians left their farms and towns and came to this country, to Charleston, to see if they could start a new life.

When Kosa was a kid, he spent his time picking fruit along a dirt road the city now calls Englewood Avenue, and visiting the horse ranches and even a couple of pig farms in the area. He used to bring lunch to his dad, who, like just about everybody else, worked for the Kreischer brick company.

"It was a beautiful place to grow up in," Kosa, a retired supervisor for a plumbing plant in New Jersey, said. "We grew up with nature all around us. There was wildlife in the ponds and in the woods and in the summer we picked fruit and made our own preserves. Everybody appreciated and took care of the woods around us."

Kosa married Rose 45 years ago and moved into their cur-



rent home, the Androvette the common They have fu with the sam and period y see in a mus responds in floors and sta under your fe ten Island, ol milder of a rapidly disap,

The new C place the lord years ago won Kreischer hou of the old hou, the Century. It still play softt dirt and clay Oval. It's still horse country, where you exp trucks and hay

It's also a where develop and businesse centers are go ponds and w Kosas spent m It's progress, th they understan inevitable. But soon leave now, ries are still cl

"I go back to they used to sel the ponds arou days when I pu in the church said. It's differe wistfully, and w in a town all yo almost too muc! And so the K next month, a l land's history g the Arthur Kill. cult to understai

(For a pict Charleston, see

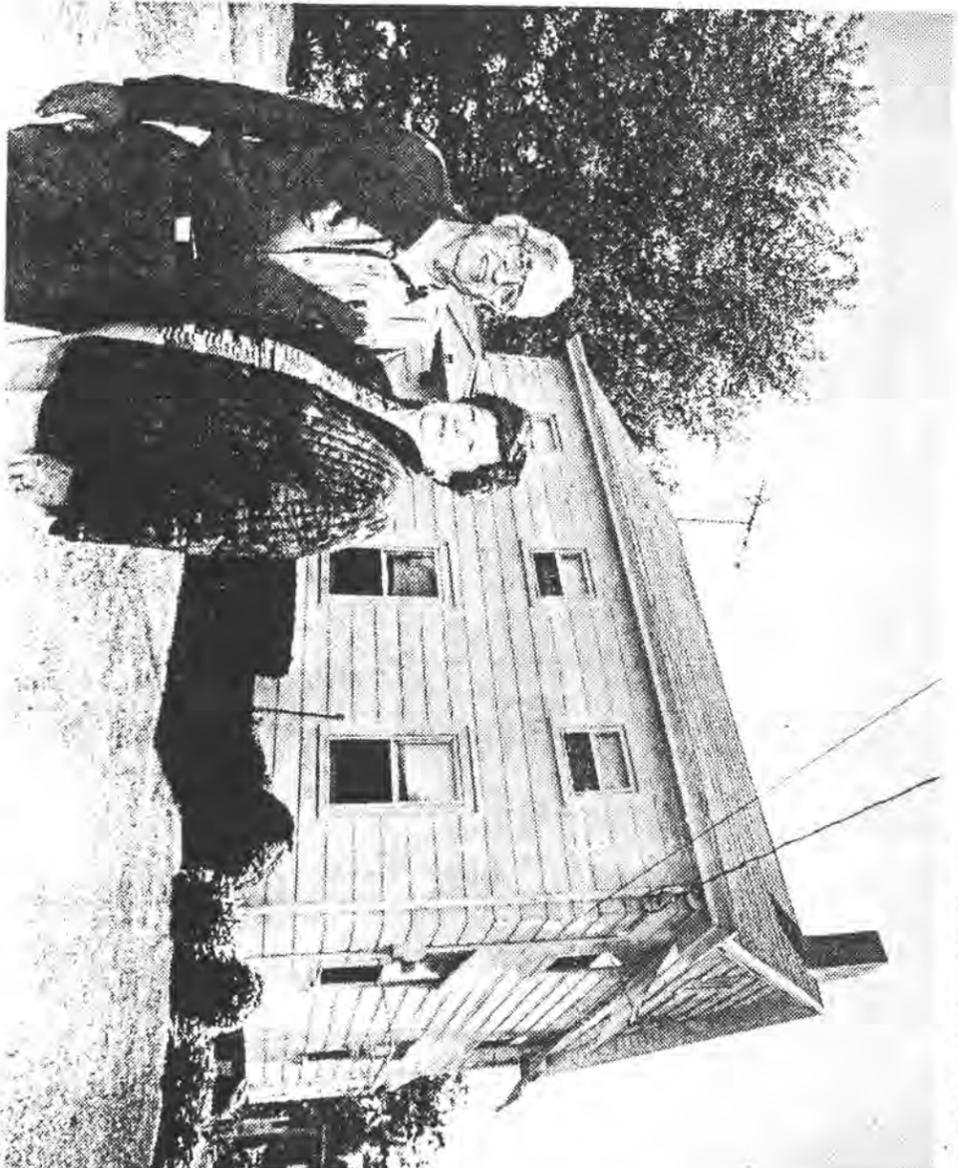


Kosa reflects on leston used to be



Alexander Kosa tends to his garden in the backyard of his house on Androvette Street in Charleston.

S.I. Advance Photos by Tony Dugai



Alexander and Rose Kosa stand in front of their 200-year-old home.