



News Release

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION DESIGNATES FIVE INDIVIDUAL LANDMARKS

On **June 8, 2004** the Landmarks Preservation Commission voted to designate five buildings representing a broad spectrum of 19th century building types. 127, 129 and 131 MacDougal Street in Manhattan are early 19th century single family homes designed in the Federal style. The Wilbraham, located at 1 West 30th Street, was built as an eight-story bachelor apartment hotel in 1880-90. Finally, the four-story Hecla Iron Works in Brooklyn is an important building that exhibits the transitional point between traditional masonry construction and the steel-framed curtain wall construction of early skyscrapers.

127, 129 and 131 MacDougal Street

“These three Federal-style rowhouses reflect the rich variety of residential architecture in New York City and tell the story of the evolution of the Greenwich Village streetscape over time,” said Robert B. Tierney, Chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

The three rowhouses at 127, 129 and 131 MacDougal Street in Greenwich Village were constructed c. 1828-29 in the Federal style, characterized by their Flemish bond brickwork, entablatures and fanlights, molded lintels, peaked roofs, simple cornices, and double dormers. These houses, notable singularly and as a group, are among the relatively rare surviving and significantly intact buildings of their style and period in Manhattan.



The Wilbraham (1 West 30th Street)

“The brick and brownstone Wilbraham is a Victorian survivor of the time when this stretch of Fifth Avenue was filled with fashionable shops, hotels and clubs,” said Robert B. Tierney.

The Wilbraham, built in 1888-90 as a bachelor apartment hotel, was commissioned by prominent Scottish-American jeweler William Moir as a real estate investment. It was designed by the versatile New York architectural firm of D. & J. Jardine. Located at the northwest corner of Fifth Avenue and West 30th Street, the eight-story building is clad in a handsome combination of Philadelphia brick, Belleville brownstone, and cast iron. The Wilbraham is extraordinarily well-detailed and



reflects the influence of the Romanesque Revival style in the rock-faced stonework and intricately carved stone detail.

Hecla Iron Works Building (100-118 North 11th Street)

“The Hecla Iron Works company was groundbreaking in its technological advancements in architectural construction,” said Robert B. Tierney. *“This building is a wonderful addition to our collection of industrial landmarks.”*

Constructed in 1896-97, the Hecla Iron Works Building was built to serve as the company’s headquarters and to demonstrate various metal techniques developed by the firm. Niels Poulsen, who founded the company with Charles M. Eger in 1876, is likely to have supervised design and construction. Inspired by classical sources, the elevations are divided by large and small pilasters, as well as spandrel panels embellished with rosettes and simple moldings. The distinctive windows, which are original to the building, are among the oldest metal-frame windows in New York City.



Hecla was one of the most important manufacturers of architectural and ornamental iron and bronze in the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The firm supplied ornamental work for the exteriors and interiors of many buildings in the city, including the American Surety Building, the New York Life Insurance Building and Grand Central Terminal. Hecla was also responsible for fabricating the original IRT subway kiosks, various street clocks, and the Lullwater Bridge in Prospect Park.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is the New York City agency responsible for designating and regulating New York City’s landmarks.