

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS OF SUMMER 2009





## - HISTORIC DISTRICTS -

**Gansevoort Market Historic District / Gansevoort Market State and National Register Historic District:** GVSHP proposed the Gansevoort Market Historic District in 2001. The City designated the somewhat smaller Gansevoort Market District in 2003, while the Gansevoort Market State and National Register Historic District, designated in 2007, includes the entire area proposed by GVSHP. This was the first expansion of historic district protections in Greenwich Village since the designation of the Greenwich Village Historic District in 1969.

**Greenwich Village Historic District Extension / Weehawken Street Historic District:** The Greenwich Village Historic District Extension and the Weehawken Street Historic District were designated in 2006 in response to GVSHP’s proposal for landmarking the Far West Village. This was the first-ever expansion of the Greenwich Village Historic District, and only the second new historic district in Greenwich Village since 1969.

**NoHo Historic District / NoHo East Historic District / NoHo Historic District Extension:** GVSHP was a staunch advocate of extending landmark protections to NoHo; after the NoHo Historic District was designated in 1999, GVSHP continued to push for designation of the remainder of the neighborhood, which took place in 2003 (NoHo East Historic District) and 2008 (NoHo Historic District Extension).

**South Village Historic District:** GVSHP proposed the South Village Historic District in 2006. In May 2009, the City proposed the first landmark designations for part of the area – proposed expansions of the adjacent Greenwich Village and SoHo Historic Districts. The 235-building, 12-block expansion of the Greenwich Village Historic District would be the largest expansion of landmark protections in Greenwich Village since 1969. The City has indicated they will consider the remainder of the proposed South Village Historic District after these first two pieces are designated.

**Stonewall State and National Register Historic District:** The Stonewall State and National Register Historic District was proposed by GVSHP, and was listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places in 1999 (the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Stonewall Riots), and designated a National Historic landmark in 2000. This was the first, and to this day only, site in the United States so recognized for its significance to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History.

## - DOWNZONINGS -

**3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Corridor:** In 2006, when the city began consideration of a rezoning of the East Village, GVSHP pushed hard to expand the rezoning to include the 3rd and 4th Avenue corridors, where current zoning encourages hotel and dormitory development of up to 20 stories or more. The local Community Board and elected officials also joined in this call, and while the area was not included in the East Village rezoning adopted by

the City, the proposal to rezone the area is now being reviewed separately by the City.

**East Village:** In 2008 the City adopted a massive 111-block rezoning of the East Village proposed by a coalition of community groups including GVSHP, which downzoned much of the neighborhood, limiting the size and height of allowable new development. This was the largest rezoning in Manhattan in several years.

**Far West Village:** In 2005, in response to a campaign led by GVSHP, the city downzoned much of the Far West Village, limiting the size and height of allowable new development there. This was the first downzoning in Manhattan in years.

## - INDIVIDUAL LANDMARKS -

**4 St. Marks Place:** No. 4 St. Marks Place, built in 1832, was among 13 federal houses GVSHP and the New York Landmarks Conservancy proposed for landmark designation in 2003. It was designated in 2004.

**67 Greenwich Street:** No. 67 Greenwich Street, built in 1811, was among 13 federal houses GVSHP and the New York Landmarks Conservancy proposed for landmark designation in 2003. It was designated in 2005.

**127, 129, and 131 MacDougal Street:** Nos. 127, 129, and 131 MacDougal Street, built in 1829, were among 13 federal houses GVSHP and the New York Landmarks Conservancy proposed for landmark designation in 2003. They were designated in 2004.

**159 Charles Street:** In 2007, the City landmarked this 1838 house. It was one of eight sites in the Far West Village the City committed to landmark in 2005 in response to GVSHP’s proposed Far West Village Historic District, which also resulted in the Greenwich Village Historic District Extension and the Weehawken Street Historic District.

**354 West 11th Street:** In 2007, the City landmarked this 1841 house. It was one of eight sites in the Far West Village the City committed to landmark in 2005 in response to GVSHP’s proposed Far West Village Historic District, which also resulted in the Greenwich Village Historic District Extension and the Weehawken Street Historic District.

**486 and 488 Greenwich Street:** Nos. 486 and 488 Greenwich Street, built in 1820, were among 13 federal houses GVSHP and the New York Landmarks Conservancy proposed for landmark designation in 2003. They were designated in 2007.

**F.W. Devoe & Co. Paint Factory:** In 2008, the City landmarked this former factory at 110-112 Horatio Street, which was built in 1882. This was one of eight sites in the Far West Village the City committed to landmark in 2005 in response to GVSHP’s proposed Far West Village Historic District, which also resulted

in the Greenwich Village Historic District Extension and the Weehawken Street Historic District.

**Keller Hotel:** The City landmarked this 1898 hotel in 2007. This was one of eight sites in the Far West Village the City committed to landmark in 2005 in response to GVSHP’s proposed Far West Village Historic District, which also resulted in the Greenwich Village Historic District extension and the Weehawken Street Historic District.

**Silver Towers:** GVSHP proposed Silver Towers, its landscaping, and its giant Picasso sculpture for landmark designation in 2003; the city designated the complex in 2008. Landmark designation not only protects its modernist design, but helps block NYU’s plan for a 40-story tower – the Village’s tallest – on the complex’s open space along Bleecker Street.

**Webster Hall:** GVSHP proposed Webster Hall for landmark designation in 2007, and it was designated by the city in 2008. Designation not only honors the 120-year political, social, and cultural history of Webster Hall, but prevents another 20+ story dorm or hotel from being built in an area where lax zoning has allowed many such developments in recent years.

## - OTHER SITES -

**43 MacDougal Street:** GVSHP has gotten the City to levy over \$100,000 in fines and begin pursuit of a lawsuit against the owner of 43 MacDougal Street, a landmarked 1846 house which has been neglected for over 20 years and has deteriorated to the point of endangering its safety and that of its neighbors.

**115-125 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South:** In 2009, GVSHP successfully opposed approvals needed for a proposed addition to 115-125 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South that would have doubled the building’s height.

**128 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street:** In 2006, GVSHP was able to stop demolition plans for 128 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street, the last surviving horse auction mart building in New York and the former studio of artist Frank Stella. The City is currently considering GVSHP’s proposal to landmark the building.

**145 Perry Street:** In 2008 and 2009, GVSHP successfully called for changes in the design and a reduction in the size of a proposed new development at 145 Perry Street.

**685 Washington Street:** In 2008, GVSHP successfully opposed needed approvals for a nine-story building at 685 Washington Street in the newly-expanded Greenwich Village Historic District.

**848 Washington Street:** GVSHP successfully blocked approvals for plans for a 500-ft. tall tower at 848 Washington Street twice – in 2003 and 2004.

**Congregation Mezritch Synagogue:** In 2008, GVSHP and a coalition of East Village and Jewish groups were able to derail plans to demolish the Congregation Mezritch Synagogue, the East Village’s last operating “tenement synagogue.”

**Jefferson Market Garden and Library:** A grant from the Vincent Astor Foundation allowed GVSHP and the Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area to install a new wrought iron and steel fence around the Jefferson Market Garden and back lot of the library in 1998, replacing a deteriorating chain link fence which surrounded the garden for more than two decades. Its design was based upon the original 19th century fence which surrounded the site.

**Jefferson Market Library:** In 2007, after years of deterioration to the facade of the Jefferson Market Library, GVSHP and other community groups successfully advocated for funding which had been secured for interior renovations to be transferred to allow for the urgently-needed renovation of the exterior of the building.

**New School:** In 2009 the New School announced that they were dropping plans to build a new 350-ft. tall glass building at 65 Fifth Avenue, a plan staunchly opposed by GVSHP.

**NYU Dormitories:** After a campaign led by GVSHP to get New York University to locate new facilities outside of the Greenwich Village/NoHo/East Village area, in 2008 the University announced plans to locate new dormitories in Downtown Brooklyn and East Midtown.

**Pier 40:** In 2008, GVSHP and a broad coalition of community groups successfully blocked approvals for a massive entertainment complex on Pier 40 branded “Vegas-on-the-Hudson.”

**Provincetown Playhouse:** In 2008, GVSHP led the effort to get NYU to change plans to demolish the Provincetown Playhouse. While the University moved forward on demolishing the historic building which housed the theater, they agreed to preserve the theater space itself and build around it.

**Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Virgin Protection:** In 2008, GVSHP and East Village community groups were able to prevent plans to build an eight-story condo tower on top of the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Virgin Protection at 59 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The City is currently considering GVSHP’s proposal to landmark the site.

**St. Vincent’s Hospital:** GVSHP led the effort to call for substantial changes to the St. Vincent’s/Rudin plan to demolish nine buildings in the Greenwich Village Historic District and replace them with two enormous towers and several smaller buildings. The Landmarks Preservation Commission required several (but not all) of the changes GVSHP called for, including preserving four of the campus’ historic buildings and reducing the size of the largest buildings. The plan is still being reviewed and has not yet received final approval.