What A <u>Difference</u> GVSHP Makes!

> In 2013, GVSHP fought hard to get NYU's Vanderbilt Hall landmarked. Without landmarking, NYU could have built a 300 ft. tall tower on Washington Square.

> > Image of Structure Which Could Be Built on NYU Vanderbilt Hall Site Without Landmarking

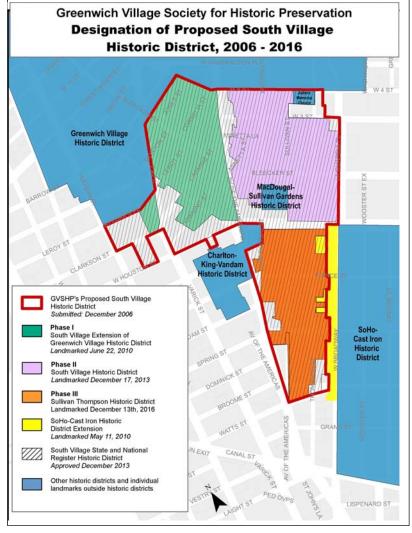
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Starting in 2006, GVSHP fought to landmark all 750 buildings and forty blocks of the South Village, the area south of Washington Square and West 4th Street.

After getting the first section of the South Village landmarked in 2010, GVSHP pushed hard to get the City to designate the second section, south of Washington Square. When the city released their boundaries for a proposed landmark district in the area, it excluded key NYU buildings like the D'Agostino Hall, the Kevorkian Center, and Vanderbilt Hall on Washington Square, all of which GVSHP had proposed be included.

Vanderbilt Hall is a full city block, which under existing zoning could be demolished and replaced with a 300 ft. tall tower. It is also a noteworthy example of historicist architecture that Villagers fought hard for at the time, designed to blend in with its low-rise, historic surroundings – a rarity for postwar architecture.

Once the City releases proposed landmark district boundaries, they almost never expand them, only



contract them. Nevertheless, GVSHP waged a concerted battle to get all the NYU buildings included in the proposed landmark district, arguing particularly strongly for Vanderbilt Hall.

After receiving thousands of emails, letters, postcards and phone calls from GVSHP members, in May, 2013 the City added all three NYU buildings to the proposed landmark district. In December, 2013, the City voted to



designate the South Village Historic (landmark) District, including all three NYU buildings. This designation, which included about two hundred fifty buildings and over a dozen blocks, was the largest expansion of landmark protections in Greenwich

Village since 1969. This designation makes it virtually impossible for Vanderbilt Hall to ever be torn down, much less replaced with the 300 ft. tall tower zoning would allow.

In 2013, GVSHP got the third and final phase of our proposed South Village Historic District landmarked, the section south of Houston Street. This followed several years of the City refusing to landmark this area, saying it was not worthy of designation. For more information, see <u>www.gvshp.org/sv</u>.