



THOMAS DUANE
SENATOR, 29TH DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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December 8, 2011

Hon. Robert Tierney
Chair
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chairman Tierney,

I am writing regarding the 1839 Greek Revival house at 370 West 11 Street within my State Senate District. As you may recall, I have called upon the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) to calendar a public hearing on this site – as well as on neighboring 372 West 11 Street and Charles Lane – in the past. Most recently, I did so as a coda to my January 12, 2010 testimony in support of Westbeth's designation as an individual landmark – a designation for which I am profoundly grateful.

I am raising this matter with even greater urgency today because I understand that applications have been filed with the New York City Department of Buildings to alter the building's front and rear façades and to add a penthouse. These changes would greatly modify one of the Greenwich Village waterfront's rare intact Greek Revival houses with a historic storefront dating from the late 19th century. Given the building's architectural and historic significance, I urge you to consider it for individual landmark designation as soon as possible. Indeed, it is my understanding that in 2005, this building was one of eight that LPC promised Far West Village preservation advocates it would consider for designation. Of those eight, 370 West 11 Street, 372 West 11 Street and Charles Lane remain unprotected.

I admire LPC's dedication to safeguarding our city's heritage and have greatly appreciated its efforts to preserve other significant buildings and areas in my district despite its limited staff and

the many worthy requests it receives from across the five boroughs. However, in light of the imminent threat faced by 370 West 11 Street, it is critical that LPC calendar a public hearing on this building now.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Duane". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Thomas K. Duane
New York State Senate
29th District