



**Greenwich
Village
Society for
Historic
Preservation**

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March 14, 2012

Hon. Christine C. Quinn
Speaker, New York City Council
224 West 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Re: Reiss Building

Dear Speaker Quinn,

I write regarding the announced plan to preserve the Reiss Building as part of the approval for the Rudin development of the St. Vincent's East Campus. As you know, GVSHP and many others forcefully advocated for the preservation of this building. However, I believe that more details are needed regarding the agreement that has been reached to "preserve" the building and what exactly that would entail.

As you know, there have been issues with other projects that have received Council approval with the claim that the building would be "preserved," when in fact virtually nothing of the original building remains. 150 Charles Street is a current example. Because, as I understand, the plan would entail construction of a large garage underneath the Reiss building and with an entrance through it, I believe clarification is especially needed in this case regarding how and to what degree the building will be preserved and reused.

I look forward to hearing back from you with more information about this important issue.

Sincerely,

Andrew Berman
Executive Director