



Greenwich  
Village  
Society for  
Historic  
Preservation

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June 3, 2014

Mr. Robert B. Tierney  
Chairman  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
One Centre Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chairman Tierney:

We write to urge you to schedule a vote on the proposed landmark designation of the Tifereth Israel/Town and Village Synagogue at 334 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street, in Manhattan, before your tenure as Chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission ends.

We strongly support designating this important 1866 house of worship as a landmark. As you know, a public hearing was held on possible designation on March 25, 2014. We were gratified by the strong support from speakers at the hearing in favor of doing so. Additionally, hundreds of letters in support of designation from community members were submitted to the Commission within the 30-day comment period.

As you are aware, this building has been deemed significant since the earliest days of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, and has been calendared since 1966. We appreciate that after the building was put on the market for sale, you scheduled a hearing to finally settle the question of the building's potential landmark status. The status of this historic building has remained in limbo through almost a dozen Landmarks Preservation Commission chairs; it would be a shame if that were to continue through yet another Chair's tenure.

It seems that 48 years is long enough to wait. Both the building and the community would benefit from a decision made by a fully informed Chair and Commission, rather than by new Commissioners and staff that may be less familiar with the issues involved.

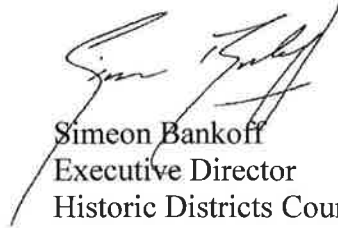
We know that T&V leadership have communicated their lack of interest in designation, but they do not seem to acknowledge the preservation community's willingness to be of assistance in meeting potential challenges (as GVSHP noted in an April 2 letter cc'd to the Commission).

We greatly appreciate your careful consideration of the merits of designating 334 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street. In the interests of continuity and streamlining the process, we hope that you will move ahead soon with a vote and designation of Tifereth Israel/Town and Village Synagogue as a New York City Landmark.

Sincerely,



Andrew Berman  
Executive Director  
Greenwich Village Society for  
Historic Preservation



Simeon Bankoff  
Executive Director  
Historic Districts Council



Richard Moses  
President  
Lower East Side  
Preservation Initiative



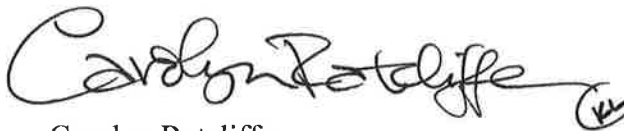
Sara Romanoski  
Managing Director  
East Village Community Coalition



Joyce Mendelsohn  
Friends of the Lower East Side



Laurie Tobias Cohen  
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Lower East Side Conservancy



Carolyn Ratcliffe  
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