



WE IMAGINE OUR FUTURE

The Union Square Community Coalition looks forward to landmark protection for these five remarkable structures.

Recognizing that there is still much to be mined in the historic Union Square area, USCC is starting the process of gaining landmark designation for these five additional buildings. The first step is the landmarks committee of the relevant Community Board, and if the full Board approves, the matter is sent to the Landmarks Preservation Commission with a Request for Evaluation. This might take awhile, necessitating repeated requests. Gaining the support of other groups is important when it comes time to testify anywhere in the process. Note that the five structures presented on these two pages are in three different jurisdictions: Community Boards 2, 5, and 6.

Besides the 14 already-landmarked buildings, the Union Square Community Coalition joined with other groups to secure the designation of two local historic districts: Ladies' Mile Historic District (shown partially in the map above) and the 10-building East 17th Street/Irving Place Historic District.



A | 801 BROADWAY (1868) AT EAST 11TH STREET
FORMER JAMES MCCREERY DRY GOODS STORE

Here, near the start of the original Ladies' Mile, an Irish immigrant built one of the first department stores, with colossal cast-iron facades. Though the magnificent mansard roof was lost in a fire in 1972 and has been replaced by a humdrum addition, the building makes an impressive residence for apartment dwellers today.

B | 136 EAST 16TH STREET (1850 & 1889)



This is the story of a remarkable transformation — from an ordinary single-family rowhouse into five extraordinary French flats. Much facade embellishment came with the conversion: A columned and pedimented entrance portico; window enframements with sawtooth detail and triangular pediments; and top-floor windows with fanlights. Herter Brothers, primarily interior designers, were the architects.

C | 121 EAST 17TH STREET (CIRCA 1854)



Originally a carriage house (architect unknown), this simple brick structure has played many roles over the years — garage, residence, offices, café. Today it is a two-story restaurant known as The House. It is the last 19th-century survivor on its mostly 20th-century block. Its side facade, facing a courtyard, has more bull's-eye windows.

D | 129 EAST 17TH STREET (1879)

Arguably, this is the oldest intact apartment house in the entire city — and it is still functioning as such. It was designed by Napoleon Le Brun, the celebrated and prolific architect of the landmarked former Metropolitan Life Insurance Company tower on Madison Square, seven blocks to the north.



E | 141 EAST 17TH STREET (1889)

Behind this elaborately decorated two-story facade of pressed tin, Henry Luce and a colleague in 1922 rented an office for \$55 a month and came up with the idea for *Time* magazine, a concept that, in many ways, revolutionized journalism forever.

Joseph G. Cannon on the cover of the first issue of Time magazine, March 3, 1923. He was the leader of the Republican Party and the 40th Speaker of the House of Representatives.



ABOUT UNION SQUARE PARK

Although it is the neighborhood park to countless nearby residents, Union Square Park, a National Historic Landmark, is not in a specific community. It lies at the juncture of Chelsea, Greenwich Village, the East Village, Gramercy Park, and the Ladies' Mile. It is also at the heart of a busy business area and transit hub, resulting in endless applications to stage commercial events. Maintaining it as a peoples' park, and freeing its Pavilion for year-round community use, motivate USCC to guard it against massive privatization.

CREDITS:
Contemporary photos: Geoffrey Croft. Cover photo: Everett/SupperStock. Photo: 34½ East 12th Street courtesy of Police Athletic League. Map art: Tracy Turner. Text: Carol Greitzer and Jack Taylor. Design: Miriam Berman Graphic Design.

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