



THE
VICTORIAN
SOCIETY
NEW YORK

c/o Village Alliance
8 East 8th Street
New York, NY 10003
212 286 3742
info@vicsocny.org
vicsocny.org

May 8, 2020

TO: Sarah Carroll, Chair, NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

RE: Manida Street Historic District Statement/submission of the Victorian Society New York LP-2644, Public Meeting 12th May 2020

Dear Chair Carroll:

The Preservation Committee of the Victorian Society New York enthusiastically supports Manida Street, Hunts Point the Bronx, being formally designated as a Historic District. This is a most auspicious occasion being the 150th designation and the 13th for the Bronx and the first remote LPC designation hearing.

The houses built between 1908/1909 in a Renaissance Revival style by Daub and Kreymborg and James F. Meehan of two stories are of a consistent architectural style and retain many, if not most, historical details. They were built during a period of rapid development of the South Bronx hastened with the construction of the Westside Interboro Rapid Transit subway into the Bronx some five years earlier.

The designation of this district would meet the purpose and declaration of public policy defined 55 years ago in the Landmarks Law and in particular would protect and safeguard the city's historic, architectural, aesthetic, economic, political and cultural heritage as embodied in the ensemble of buildings that form this district. Manida Street is a text book example of a concerted effort by owners to consistently maintain the integrity of their houses and thereby ensuring an informal discipline of compliance. Ten years of lobbying and advocating for Historic District status has now borne fruit; this is a wonderful spirited achievement and bears testimony to what can be done to ensure preservation and recognition.

We commend the LPC for their decision and look forward to considering and supporting other districts, including those in the Bronx, that merit such status.

Sincerely,

The Preservation Committee
Victorian Society New York