



Greenwich
Village
Society for
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Preservation

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January 14, 2016

Hon. Meenakshi Srinivasan
Chair, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street, 9th floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: Additional information on 801-807 Broadway

Dear Chair Srinivasan:

We wanted to provide you with some additional information we have become aware of regarding the history of 801-807 Broadway. As you know, this property, also known as James McCreery's & Co. Store, is one of the properties under review for designation as part of the LPC Backlog Initiative. We feel that this building is worthy of designation, and this additional information is relevant to the case for landmarking this significant structure.

In 1966, 801-807 Broadway became one of the first structures in New York City to be considered for individual landmark designation by the Commission due to its incredibly compelling architectural and cultural significance. However in 1971, a fire began in one of the factories and destroyed the interior of the building before designation could take place, and it was renovated into residential housing by 1974. While some sources state that the mansard roof was removed as a result of this renovation, the attached photo from 1910 illustrates that in fact the original mansard roof was removed at a much earlier date.

This means that the original mansard roof has been gone from the building for over a century, that this was the case when the building was first proposed for landmark designation in 1966, and that its architectural significance when considered at that time rested solely on its still intact cast iron façade. We hope you will take into account this updated information when you consider designation of what is one of the most striking cast iron structures in the city.

Sincerely,

Andrew Berman
Executive Director

cc: Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer
City Councilmember Rosie Mendez
Assemblymember Deborah Glick
Community Board #2, Manhattan



From *Both sides of Broadway, from Bowling Green to Central Park, New York City*, by R.M. De Leeuw. Published by The De Leeuw Publishing Company, New York, NY, in 1910.