

NEW YORK STATE PARKS & RECREATION Agency Building 1, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238 Information 518 474-0456
Orin Lehman, Commissioner

October 6, 1980

Ms. Linda Flint McClellan DOI W434 Washington, D.C. 20243

> Re: 83 and 85 Sullivan Street New York New York County

Dear Ms. McClellan:

As requested, please find enclosed a statement which addresses the architectural significance of the Sullivan Street buildings as they relate to other Federal style residences in Manhattan.

Sincerely,

Anne B. Covell Program Analyst Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau

ABC/rp Enc. FHR-8-300 (11-78) FHR-8-300 (11-78)



United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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and/or common					
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	83-85 Sul	livan St	••		not for publication
ity, town Ne	ew York		vicinity of	congressional district	17
tate Nev	w York	code	county	New York	code 061
3. Clas	sificatio	n			
Category  districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisit in process being consid	ion Ac	atus  _ occupied _ unoccupied _ work in progress ccessible _ yes: restricted _ yes: unrestricted _ no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
street & number		< Avenue	c/o Francis		
city, town N	ew York		vicinity of	state	New York 10028
***		Legal	Description		
	stry of deeds, etc.			ister's Office	
street & number	31 Chambai	rs Stree			
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6. Rep	resentat	ion in	Existing	_	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Jate May 15,	1973			federal sta	ate county _X loc
depository for s	urvey records	andmarks	Preservation	Commission, 30	)5 Broadway
city, town	lew York			state	New York

7. Desc	ription			
ConditionexcellentXgoodfair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unalteredX altered	Check one _X_ original site moved date _	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The two houses at 83 and 85 Sullivan Street were constructed in 1819, and are-located in lower Manhattan near Greenwich Village. They are modest Federal style dwellings which were originally two and one-half stories in height, but were raised to a full three stories during the late nineteenth century. Both houses are constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond, and feature six-oversix pane windows, with simple, cut sandstone lintels and sills. Original wrought-iron railings at the low stoop and areaway are still in place.

83 Sullivan Street is twenty-five feet wide and features a narrow passageway with a wrought-iron gate that leads to the rear yard. The basement story is covered with stucco and has an additional entrance and window. The Federal style doorway is framed by slender, wooden, Tuscan columns which support a small entablature with a recessed center portion. Above the entablature is a glass transom panel with a decorative leaded oval. The door has six recessed panels. The roof was raised to a full three stories in 1880, and is topped by a bold cornice with brackets and modillions.

No. 85 Sullivan Street is slightly narrower than its neighbor at 83. The doorway is framed by reeded moldings with corner blocks, and topped by a leaded-glass transom similar to that at No. 83. The roof was raised to three full stories in 1874, with a shallow cornice supported on closely spaced modillions. The brick on the basement story is exposed.

Each house now contains three apartments. The original interior mantlepieces, stairs, railings, woodwork, and some doors and hardware remain on the first and second floors.

. Some of the cut stone lintels and sills on the exterior have been covered with sheet metal.

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## 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning la conservation la economics li education mengineering exploration/settlement pindustry	hilosophy olitics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	. 1819	Builder/Architect		

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Nos. 83 and 85 Sullivan Street retain the distinctive scale and features of modest Federal style houses from the early nineteenth century. The original doorways, with their six-paneled doors, slender enframements, and leaded-glass transoms, are two of the most well preserved examples of their type in Manhattan. Other characteristic Federal style features which are still preserved include the Flemish bond brickwork, the six-over-six pane windows, and the delicate wroughtiron railings topped with acorn decoration. The Italianate cornice on the raised third stories is typical of many Federal period houses in Manhattan which were altered in the late nineteenth century to provide greater interior space and a more contemporary architectural style.

Both houses are situated on lots which were originally part of the Bayard farm. Nicholas Bayard conveyed the property to Daniel Ludlow and Brockholst Livingston as trustees in 1789. They, in turn, sold it to Aaron Burr in 1791, who acquired a portion of the Bayard Farm contiguous to his estate "Richmond Hill" which stood west of Sixth Avenue. Burr subdivided his property, and when he sold this lot to Anthony Bowrosan in 1802, it was on what Burr called Locust Street. Sullivan Street was named for the Revolutionary War general, John Sullivan (1740-1795).

In 1807 Bowrosan, who operated a tavern and garden at "Richmond Hill," sold the lot for No. 83 to carpenter David Mulford, and the lot for No. 85 to another carpenter, Drake Crane. In 1810, both Crane and Mulford built wooden houses on the rear of their lots. These wooden buildings were among the first on the block. Nine years later, in 1819, Crane and Mulford erected the handsome Federal style houses that exist today.

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#### United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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83 and 85 Sullivan St.

Continuation sheet

New York County Item number

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These houses are significant as rare surviving examples of modest Federal style residences in Manhattan that remain largely intact. Particularly of note is the early date of the buildings (1819) and the doorway at #83 which is one of the oldest surviving Federal doorways in Manhattan. While there are approximately fifty additional examples of Federal residences throughout Manhattan, the current ongoing survey of these buildings is not expected to be completed until 1982. Many of these buildings have been altered, especially at the ground floor level. Nos. 83 and 85 Sullivan Street have been identified as exceptional structures in this group and have been locally designated landmarks since 1973.

# Maior Bibliographical References Major Bibliographical References

(See continuation sheet)

10. Geographic	al Data				
Acreage of nominated property	ess than I a ity	acre <b>see a</b>	ttached s Qu	ite map adrangle scale	1:24000
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Verbal boundary description a	nd justification				
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List all states and counties for			r county boun		
state	code	county			code
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11. Form Prepa	ared By [	David J. F	amberger,	Researc	n Consultant
Contact: Eli name/title for Joan R. Ol	<b>zabeth Spen</b> c shansky, Nat	er⊷Ralph tional Reg	<b>518-474-0</b> ister Coor	479 dinator	*
organization Landmarks P	reservation	Commissio	date Dec	cember, I	979
street & number 305 Broad	way		telephone	(212) 566	-7577
city or town New York			state N	ew York	
12. State Histo	ric Pres	ervatio	n Office	er Cert	ification
The evaluated significance of this	property within the				:
national	state	local			
As the designated State Historic P 665), I hereby nominate this proper according to the criteria and proce	rty for inclusion in tedures set forth by t	he National Regi	stex and certify	that it has bee	n evaluated
State Historic Preservation Officer		yras	VI ~	ureau 2	12010
title Director, Historia	: Preservati	on Field S	ervices	date	126/80
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this prop	erty is included in	the National Reg	ister	date	
Keeper of the National Register  Attest:				date 1	The Hall Son W
Chief of Registration	A PROPERTY OF				THE SECTION OF

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

83 and 85 Sullivan Street ITEM NUMBER O PAGE

Landmarks Preservation Commission. 83-85 Sullivan Street

Designation Reports (LP-0643,0644). New York: City of New York. 1973.

New York City Department of Buildings. Block and Lot Records. Block 489, Lot 14 and 15. Alteration Permits 302-1880 and 165-1874 and 1085-1874.

New York City Municipal Archives. Record of Assessments. 8th Ward, 1818, 1819, 1820. Ward number 2443 and 2444.



83-85 Sullivan Street

New York County, NY

UTM Reference: 18/ 584130/ 4508480

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