

Form 10-300
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New York	
COUNTY: New York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: 131 Charles Street House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 131 Charles Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New York			
STATE New York	CODE 36	COUNTY: New York	CODE 061

OFFICE COPY

3. CLASSIFICATION		STATUS		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP			
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. & Mrs. John J. Stonehill			
STREET AND NUMBER: 131 Charles Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New York	STATE: New York	CODE 36	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: New York County Hall of Records			
STREET AND NUMBER: 31 Chambers Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New York	STATE: New York	CODE 36	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission			
DATE OF SURVEY: April 1966 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: 305 Broadway			
CITY OR TOWN: New York	STATE: New York	CODE 36	

Rep. Bella Abzug

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>This small late Federal house is two stories high, with an attic lighted by two pedimented dormers in the pitched roof. As in most of New York's Federal houses, the brick walls are laid up in Flemish bond, and the wood trim is painted white. The heavy window lintels and the cornice above the door are additions of a later period. It is likely that the original Federal trim exists beneath them. An eight-paneled oak door is set between slender Ionic side columns which support an entablature. Above the door, a leaded transom lights the stair hall. The cornice with dentils which extends the width of the facade, is wide for the Federal period, and with its added weight, it forshadowes the solidity which was becoming an aesthetic ideal.</p> <p>In 1834 Greenwich Village was still a suburban community. During the late 18th and 19th centuries the builders of houses in towns felt it necessary to include small dooryards or areaways between the front wall and the sidewalk to distinguish from the city residence a village house. The areaway at 131 Charles Street is still defined by a wrought-iron fence with a classical motif.</p> <p>The low stoop which gives access to the door is brown stone covered with cement, and retains its original wrought-iron hand railing with newel posts of a later date.</p> <p>Inside the house, the plan is notably different from the usual small Federal townhouse plan. The stairway rises from the front of the entrance hall rather than from the rear. The rear chimney is near the center of the house, between two rear rooms. A narrow passageway runs through the house at street level serving a backhouse causing the ceiling to be higher than the level of the main floor. The space above this passageway is utilized within the house for closets and china cabinets. An oval window, now bricked up, is located above the passageway on the main facade.</p> <p>Inside the house much of the original trim remains. The floors are the original pine boards. The carved wood mantels in the main rooms are the original ones, and the door and window architraves, pilasters and ceiling cornice in the front are original. In the rear dining room are the china cabinets with pine doors. The stairway still has its original newel post and bannister.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian: ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1834

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area between Washington and Greenwich Streets, in which No. 131 Charles Street is located, was once a part of the estate of the Dutch Director-General Wouter Van Twiller. During the Colonial period it was a part of the Peter Warren farm which was bought by David Mallows from the Earl of Abingdon in 1788. It became the property of the patriot Abijah Hammond in 1794, then of the William W. Gilbert estate in 1796. David Christie, a stonecutter, bought it along with the adjoining lot (No. 129 Charles Street) at public auction in 1833.

David Christie built the house at No. 131 in 1834. Today the house is the best preserved example of at least thirty similar houses erected by Christie between 1817 and 1835.

In 1834, the lot was outside the most heavily built area of the city, and the house was probably intended for lease or rental to a middle-class family which could not afford to live in the urban area to the south.

The 131 Charles Street house, although it received some minor exterior alterations during the Victorian period, is notable for the remarkable number of original interior features, carved wooden fireplaces, floorboards, ceiling cornices, window and door frames and pilasters remaining. These are all examples of interior features typical of late Federal architecture in New York City.

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Form 10-301
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
STATE New York	
COUNTY New York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: 131 Charles Street House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 131 Charles Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New York			
STATE: New York	CODE 36	COUNTY: New York	CODE 061
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: VSCS Quadrangle, 7.5' Services, Brooklyn, N. Y.			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1967			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

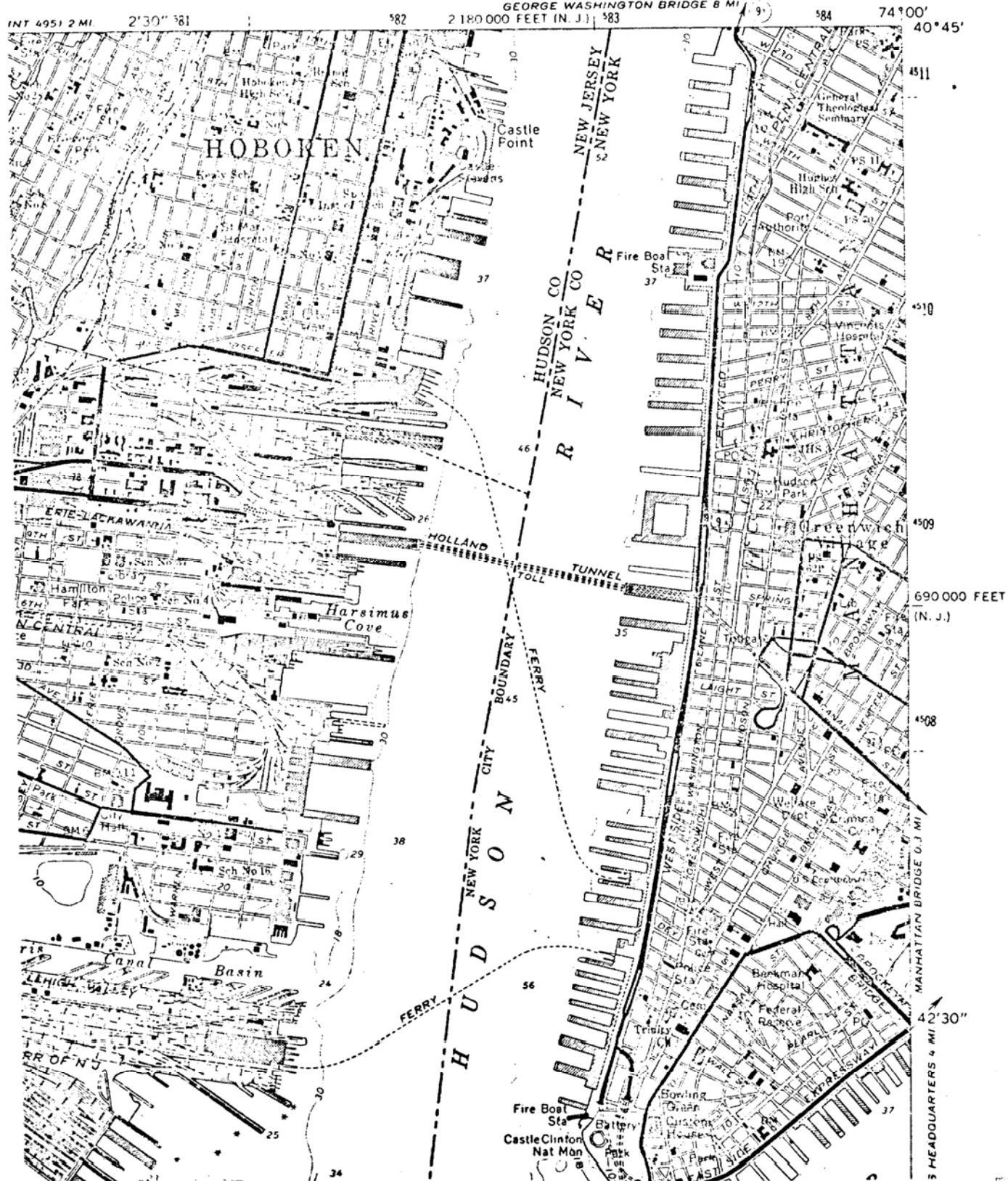
STATE New York	
COUNTY New York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: 131 Charles Street House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 131 Charles Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New York			
STATE: New York	CODE 36	COUNTY: New York	CODE 36
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: c. 1966			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View of south facade on Charles Street			

GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE 8 MI

6265 IV SW
(CENTRAL PARK)



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files of New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
 William S. Pelletreau, Early New York Houses

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	8			9			
NE	0			0			
SE	0			0			
SW	0			0			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: under one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Stephen S. Lash and Ellen Rosebrock Associates		DATE November 1, 1971
ORGANIZATION New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission		
STREET AND NUMBER: 305 Broadway		
CITY OR TOWN: New York	STATE New York	CODE 36

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name Stephen S. Lash

Title Chairman, N.Y. State Historic Trust

Date 24 I 72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS