



**METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF  
THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY IN AMERICA**

Honorable Robert B. Tierney  
Chairman, Landmarks Preservation Commission  
1 Centre Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, N.Y. 10007

September 30, 2010

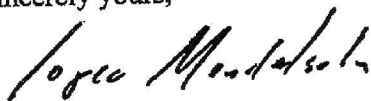
Re: Support for landmark designation of 326 and 328 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan

Dear Chairman Tierney,

The Metropolitan Chapter of the Victorian Society in America strongly supports landmark designation of 326 and 328 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street in the East Village. These early-nineteenth century Greek Revival dwellings are located in what was once known as the Dry Dock District – bounded on the north by East 12<sup>th</sup> Street and on the south by East Houston, between Avenue B and the East River. The area was so named because of the profusion of shipyards, foundries, maritime industries and related commerce that operated on the riverfront during a significant era of economic development in New York. Indeed, research has uncovered the fact that one of the house's original owners built the first steamship to cross the Atlantic – a catalyst in the emergence of New York as one of the major ports in the world.

These tiny buildings survive in remarkably intact condition and represent, perhaps, the last remnants in the East Village/Lower East Side of this maritime history. The Metropolitan Chapter of the VSA urges the Commission to designate 326 and 328 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street to protect them from unsympathetic alterations that would wipe them out as memory sites from a decisive period of our city's past. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Joyce Mendelsohn, President Metropolitan Chapter of the Victorian Society in America

Cc: GVSHP, LESPI, Hon. Scott Stringer, Hon. Daniel Squadron, Hon. Rosie Mendez, CB3

*Founded in New York City in 1966, the Victorian Society in America is dedicated to fostering the preservation of our nineteenth-century heritage as well as that of the early twentieth century.*

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