

**Village Preservation  
Adverse Effects at Proposed 5G Tower Site  
October 17, 2023**

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**SITE NAME:** MN-03-123419\_A

**ADDRESS:** 191 Avenue A

**COMMENTS:**

Village Preservation finds that the Link5G tower, which has already been installed at this location, has an adverse effect on the two historic buildings sited directly behind it.

191 and 193 Avenue A are a pair of tenements built in 1851-53. The buildings retain their original massing, and their historic integrity is evident in the intact architectural features at the Avenue A (primary) facades, including: bracketed cornices, projecting window lintels and sills, and original masonry openings. These simple buildings are among the earliest generation of tenement structures to be built and survive in this neighborhood, which in the mid-19th century was transitioning from an area of largely successful American-born merchants to one of massive immigration from Germany, Ireland, and other parts of Europe following upheaval in those lands. The East Village neighborhood would become one of the city and country's earliest and most prominent immigrant neighborhoods, where the majority of residents did not speak English as their first language, and these buildings reflect that dramatic and important transformation. While these buildings are not currently listed on the National Register, they retain historic value and integrity and may be eligible for designation.

The two four-story buildings are completely overwhelmed by the out-of-scale Link5G tower, which impacts sightlines to the buildings from all directions, and disrupts at least two bays of windows. At its 32+ feet, the tower reaches almost the full height of the historic buildings, and visually disrupts their cornices.

The installed tower indirectly alters several of the characteristics of these historic properties that would potentially qualify them for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and/or future NYC landmark designation, including the properties' design, materials, and feeling. The tower is sited only eleven feet from the streetwall at this narrow sidewalk, which also creates an adverse impact on the historic setting.