

BARTOW-PELL MANSION, Pelham Bay Park, Shore Road (north of Bartow Circle and City Island Avenue), Borough of The Bronx. Begun 1836, completed 1842.

Landmark Site: Borough of The Bronx Tax Map Block 5650, Lot 1 in part, consisting of the land on which the described building is situated.

On January 11, 1966, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of the Bartow-Pell Mansion and the proposed designation of the related Landmark Site. (Item No. 27). One witness spoke in favor of designation. The Commission continued the public hearing until February 8, 1966 (Item No. 26), at which time six speakers favored designation. Among them were the representative of the Borough President's Community Planning Board No. 12 and the President and other representatives of the International Garden Club which maintains the house. Both hearings were duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of the law. There were no speakers in opposition to designation at either meeting. In a letter, Park Commissioner Thomas Hoving recommended designation.

#### DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

This large dignified country house of local stone with cast iron balconies is one of the finest Greek Revival Period houses in this region. This excellently proportioned mansion with its handsome interiors and fine garden, with a small family burial ground, is one of the pleasantest country seats in New York City. The house is owned by the City and is under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. It is leased to the International Garden Club which has restored it and now maintains it. In 1946 it was opened to the public as a house museum.

The importance of this building lies in its expression of great Classical dignity. Spaciousness, simplicity of line, symmetrically balanced elements and good construction typical of the Greek Revival Style are but a few of the details which make the Bartow-Pell Mansion one of the best examples of this architecture in the City.

#### FINDINGS AND DESIGNATIONS

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, the architecture and other features of this building, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that the Bartow-Pell Mansion has a special character, special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, heritage and cultural characteristics of New York City.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, the Bartow-Pell Mansion is a fine expression of Greek Revival architecture with outstanding details, that it has been beautifully restored and maintained by the International Garden Club and that it is one of the outstanding house museums in this country.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 8-A of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 8-A of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Landmark the Bartow-Pell Mansion, Pelham Bay Park, Shore Road, Borough of The Bronx and designates as its related Landmark Site that part of Borough of The Bronx Tax Map Block 5650, Lot 1 which contains the land on which the described building is situated.