

Landmarks Preservation Commission  
November 23, 1965, Calendar No. 7  
LP-0076

NEW YORK COUNTY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION BUILDING, 14 Vesey Street, Borough of Manhattan. 1930, architect Cass Gilbert

Landmark Site: Borough of Manhattan Tax Map Block 88, Lot 2.

On October 19, 1965, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of the New York County Lawyers Association Building and the proposed designation of the related Landmark Site. (Calendar No. 48). The hearing had been duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law. One witness spoke in favor of designation. There were no speakers in opposition to designation.

#### DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

This building is four stories high, and above the third floor there is an attic story set back behind a handsome rail (balustrade) and roof deck. The building is an example of Federal Eclectic architecture. It is built of stone, instead of brick, as it would have been had it been built in the Federal Period in New York. Consequently it is more British than American.

The importance of this building consists in showing how a small clubhouse may be both attractive and imposing. Here the handsome proportions and bas-relief ornament of the front facade make a notable contribution to our urban architecture. As the building of the New York County Lawyers Association, it furnishes a home for that important organization in a structure expressly designed for it by the noted architect Cass Gilbert, who also designed the United States Supreme Court building in Washington.

#### 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 New York County Lawyers Association Building 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, this distinguished building has set a very high standard for the planning, design and construction of a small clubhouse and that, as such, the New York County Lawyers Association Building makes a significant contribution to the architectural beauty of the City.

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 New York County Lawyers Association Building, 14 Vesey Street, Borough of Manhattan and designates Tax Map Block 88, Lot 2, Borough of Manhattan, as its Landmark Site.