

# *Early Survivors:*

*Easily Accessed Traces of 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Manhattan*

*a presentation for*

*Bloomingtondale Aging in Place (BAiP)*

*Anthony Bellov*

*June 22, 2023*

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# *Early Survivors: Easily Accessed Traces of 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Manhattan*

*So..... what do I mean by “Access???”*

About 5,870,000,000 results (0.34 seconds)

: permission, liberty, or ability to enter, approach, or pass to and from a place or to approach or communicate with a person or thing. Jun 10, 2023



Merriam-Webster

<https://www.merriam-webster.com> > dictionary > access

[Access Definition & Meaning - Merriam-Webster](#)

# Commissioners Map of 1811



Edge of current development

End of projected grid at 155<sup>th</sup>



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 54 Pearl Street - 1719



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 105 Broad Street - 1746





# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors 209 Broadway - 1766



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors 273 Water Street - 1773



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 4881 Broadway at 204<sup>th</sup> Street - 1783





# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 7 State Street - 1793



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 279 Water Street - 1794



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 44 Stuyvesant Street - 1795



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors Blackwell House - 1796



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors 134-136 Bowery - 1798



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 131 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street - 1799



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## East 88<sup>th</sup> St and East End Ave - 1799



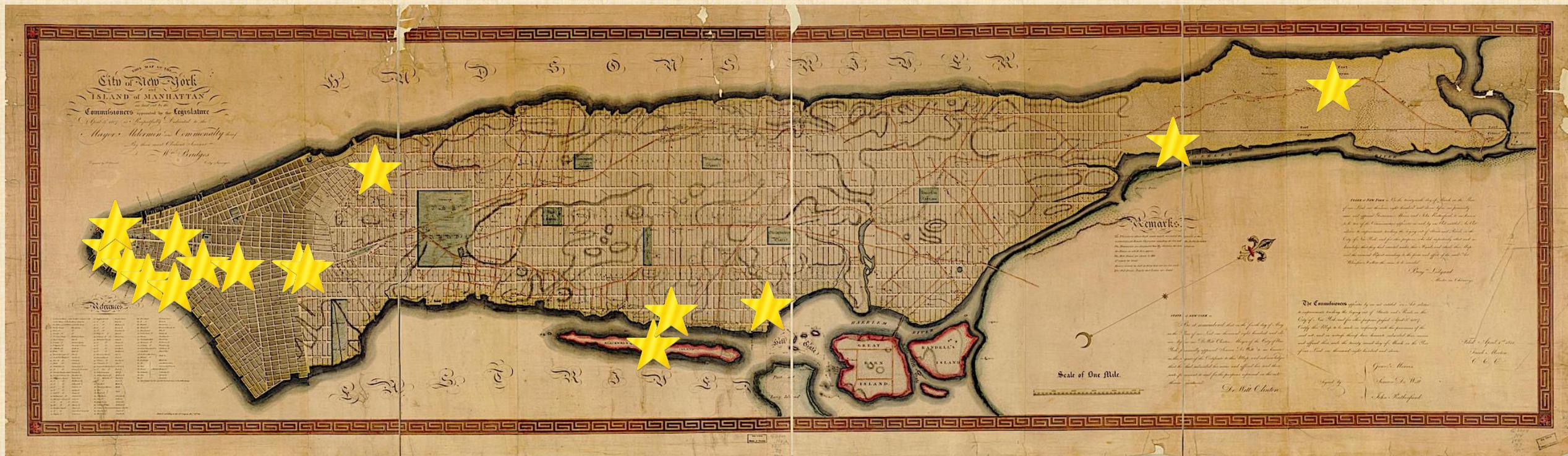
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## 421 East 61<sup>st</sup> Street - 1799



# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Survivors

## 77 Bedford Street - 1800

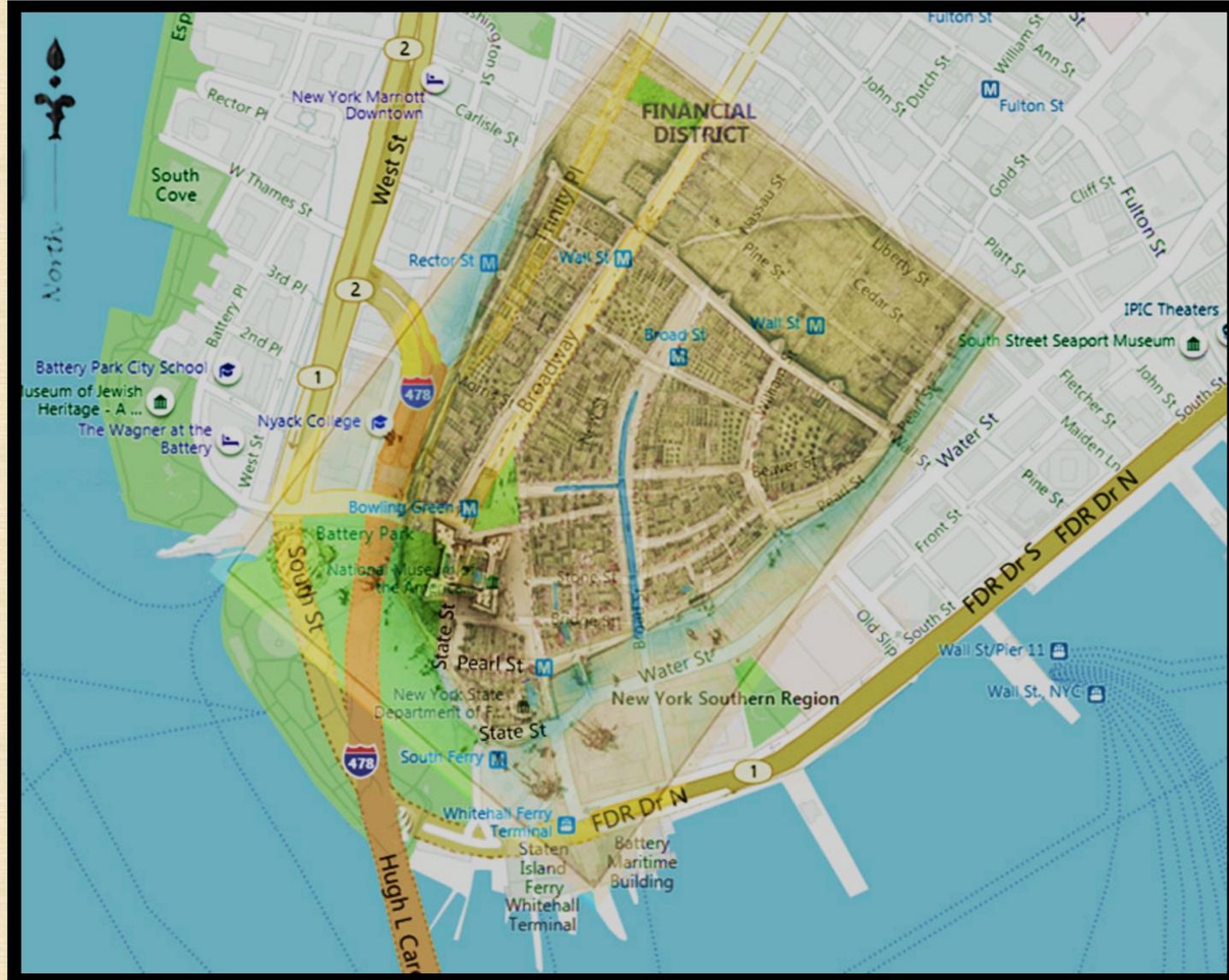


# Olde Niew-Amsterdam (Castello Plan - 1660)



# Olde & Niew New-York

(Castello Plan superimposed - courtesy Rick van Valkenburg)





# Olde New-York of 1797



FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAWING BY GEORGE HOLLAND

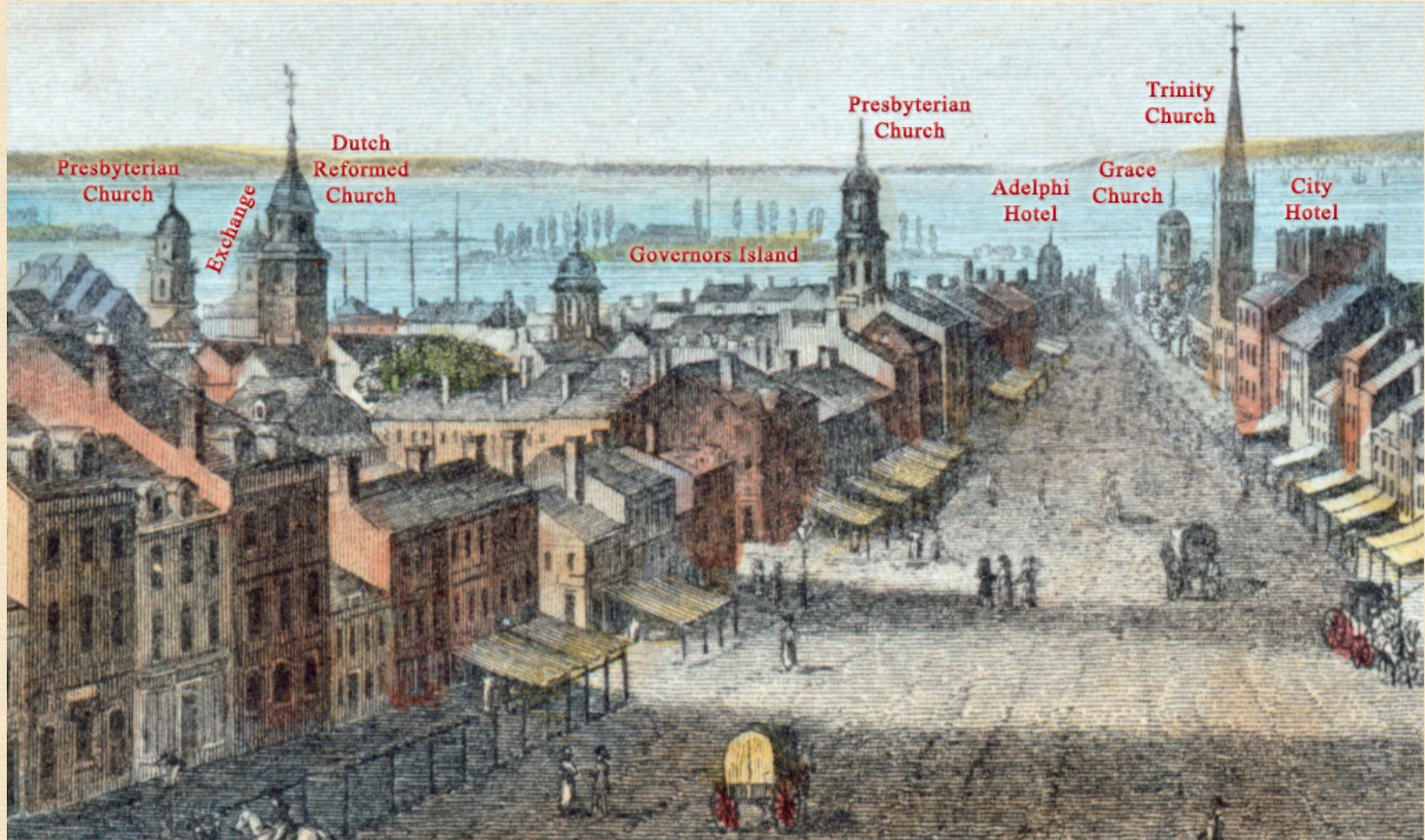
LITHO. PRINTED IN COLORS BY C. CURRIER, 23 SPRUCE ST.

A VIEW OF THE FEDERAL HALL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,

as appeared in the year 1797; with the Adjacent buildings thereto.

*Drawn expressly for G. J. Valentin's Manual.*

# Olde New-York of 1837 (c 1900 postcard)

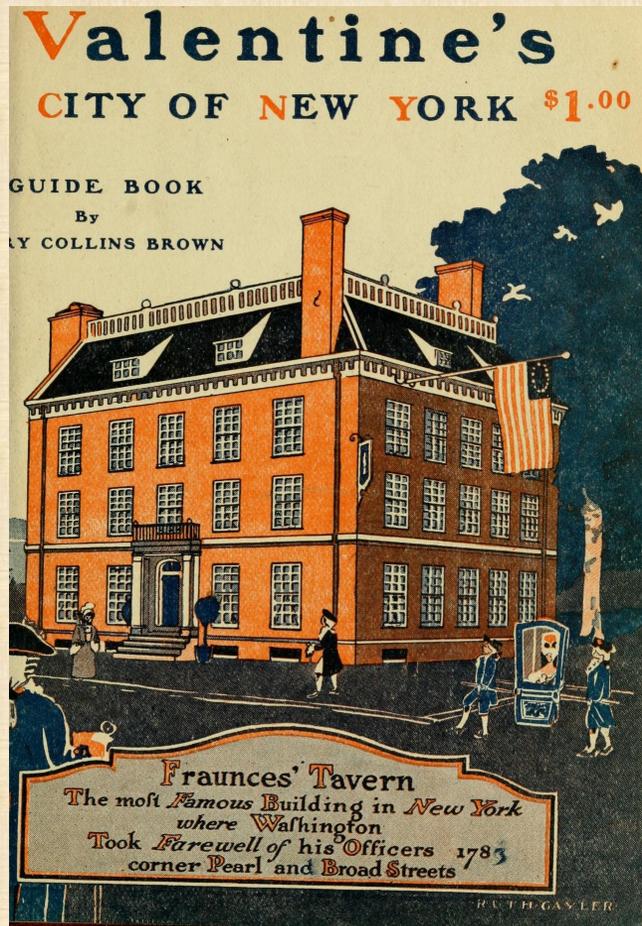




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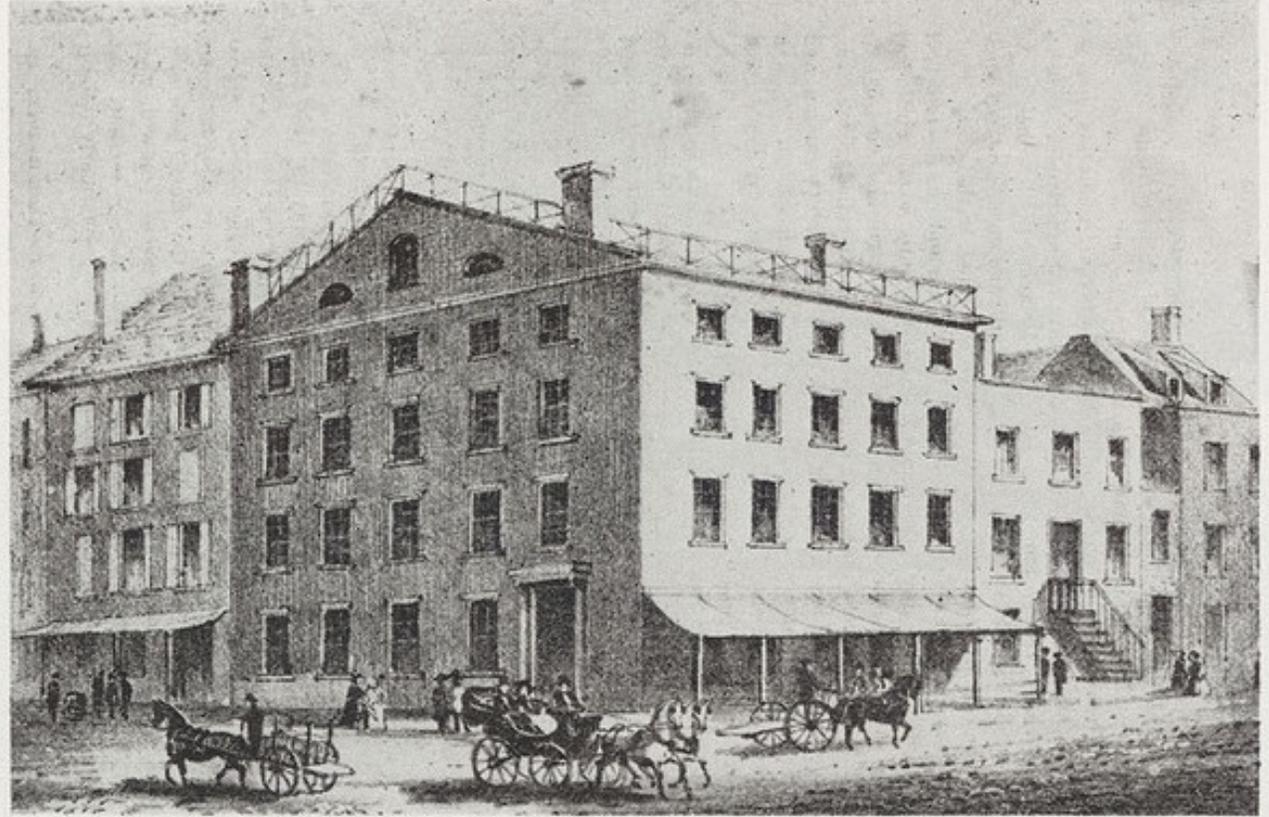
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- Two devastating fires and **major rebuilds**



*This earliest known view of Fraunces Tavern is believed to represent the building as it was altered following a fire in 1832.*

*From Valentine's Manual for 1854*

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**ACCESSIBLE! GREAT place to dine and the museum is terrific.**



# *Ye Old Coffee House - 1746*

*105 Broad Street*

- Plot owned by Philip van Cortlandt
- The Sons of Liberty used it as a meeting house beginning in 1765
- A bell hung outside summoned people to arms in 1776
- A very colorful history as offices for various shipping concerns, headquarters for several worker's organizations, etc.



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- Plot owned by Philip van Cortlandt just **around the corner from Fraunces Tavern**
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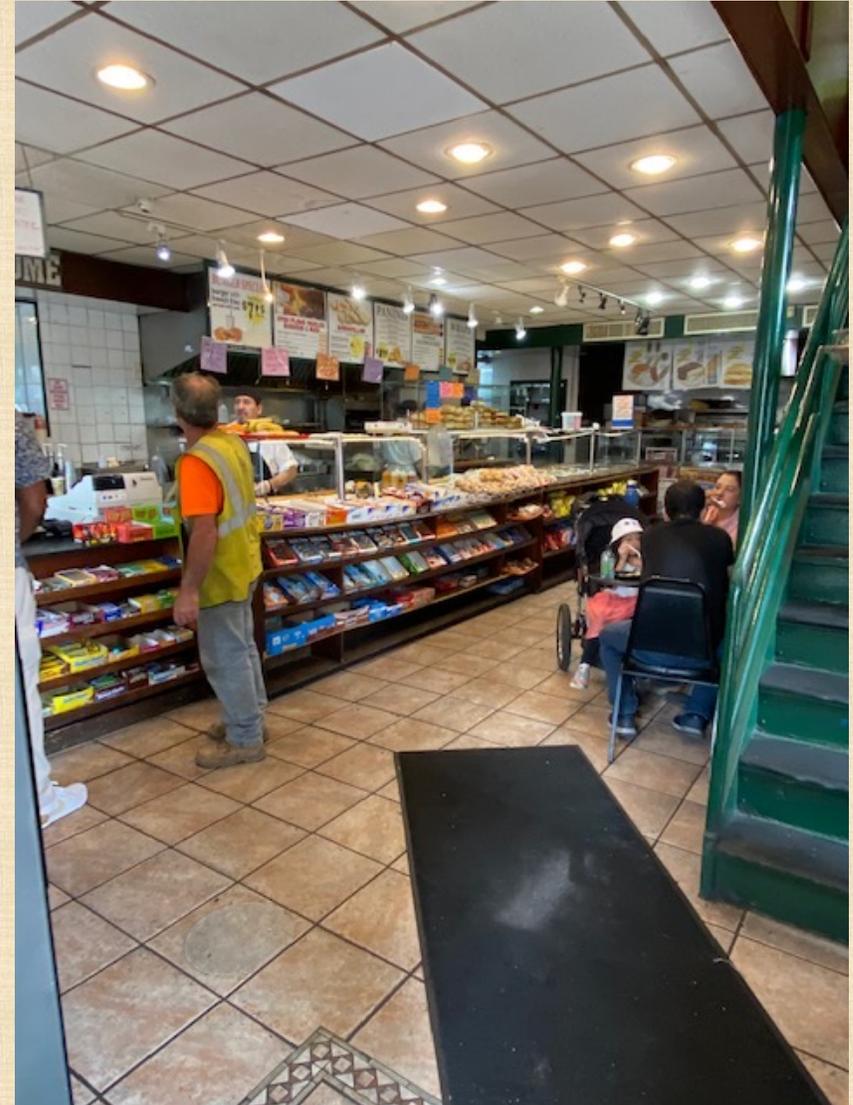
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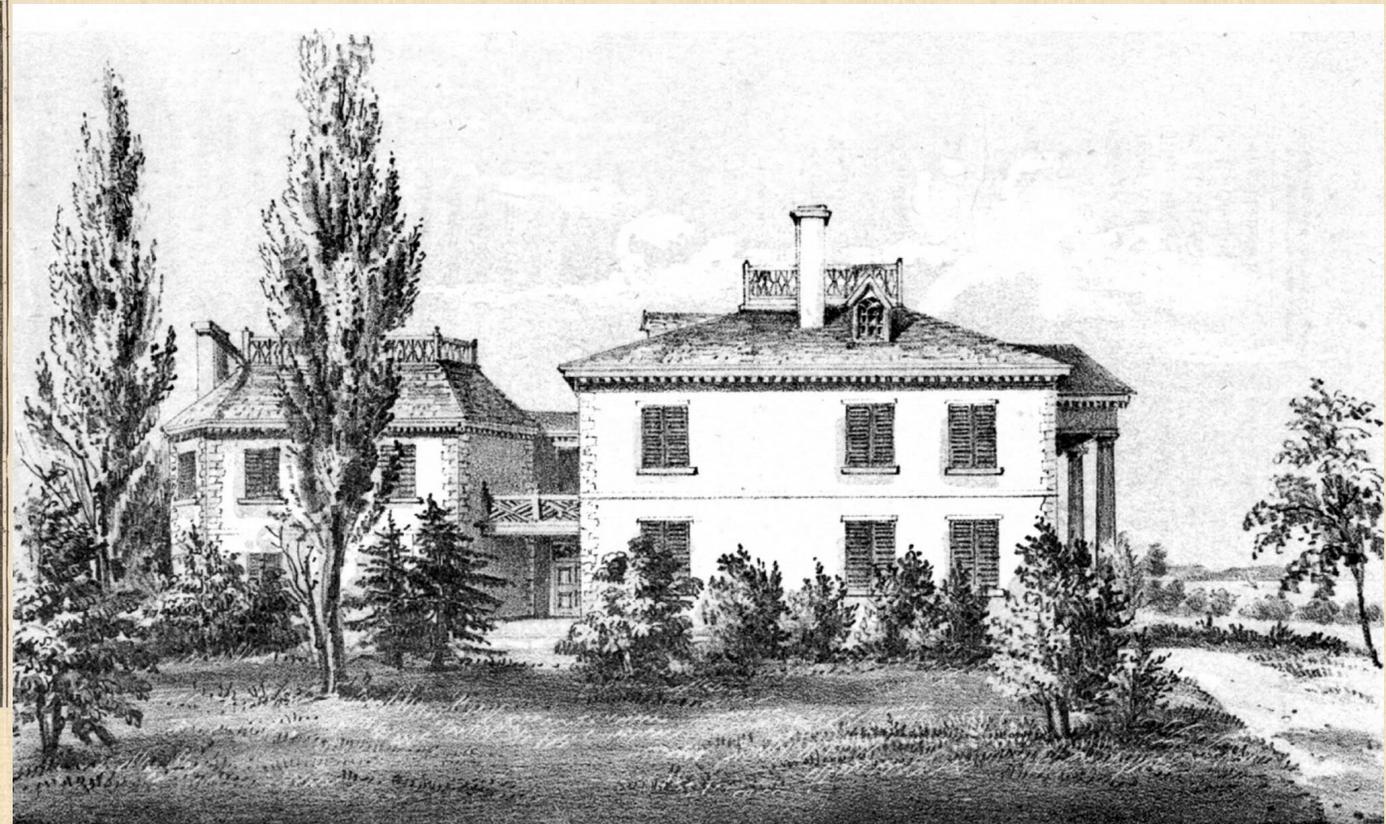
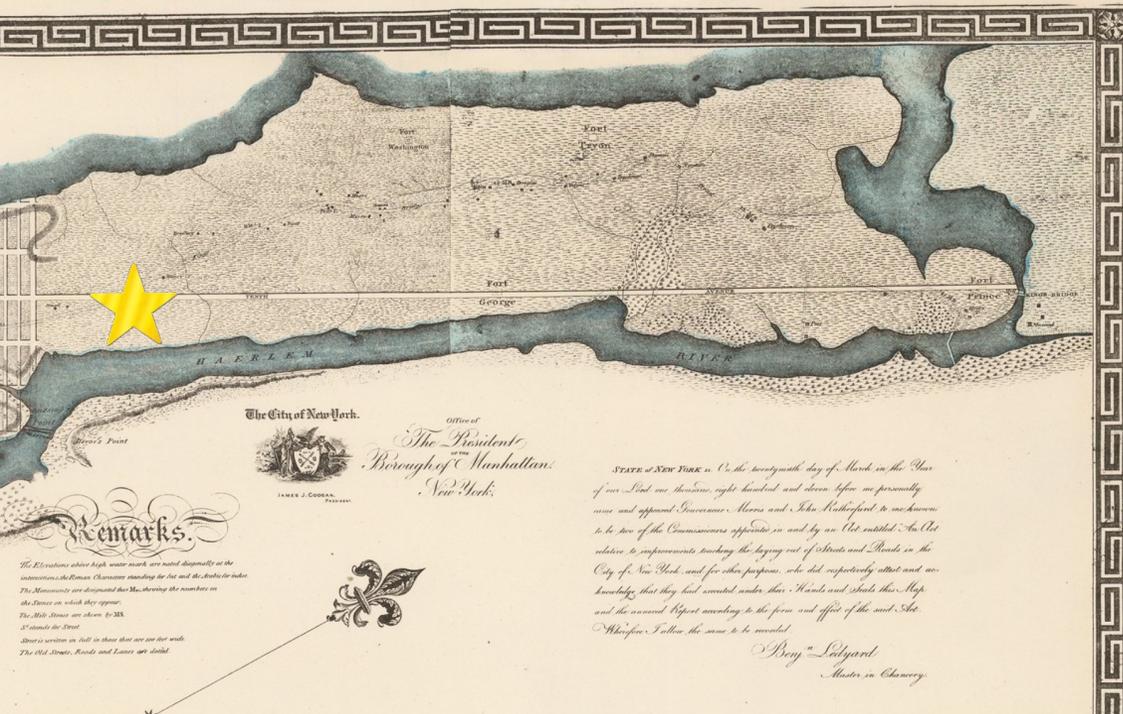
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- Today, it's **forgotten and ignored**



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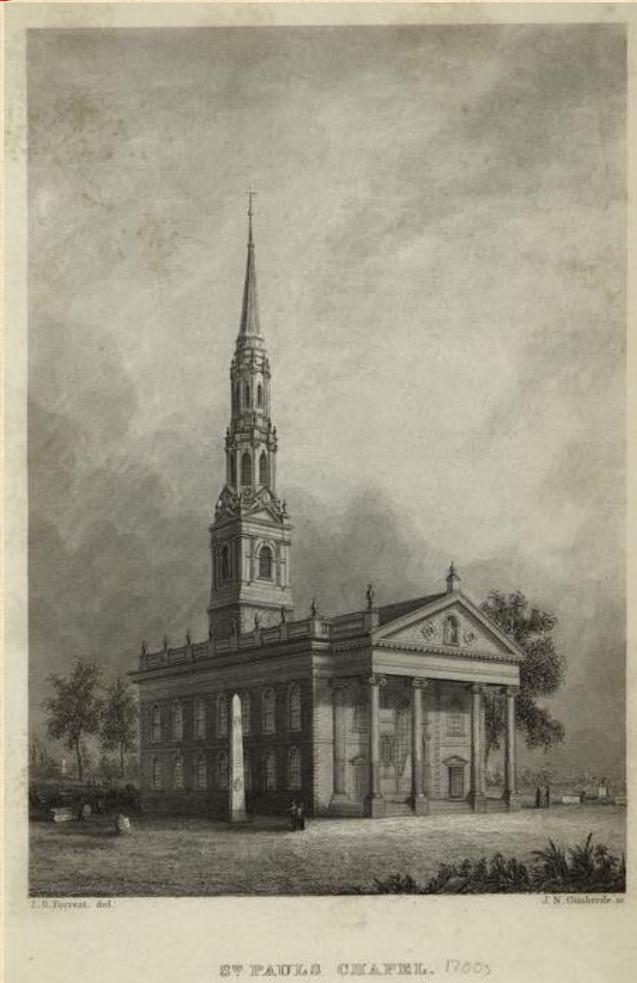
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- In 1833 Eliza married Aaron Burr for a year before leaving him and resuming her identity as the Widow Jumel - she was a very controversial character
- It continued as a private country house until 1903 when it became a City-run **historic house and park**
- **semi-accessible** - "improvements are planned"



# St. Paul's Chapel – 1766

209 Broadway at Fulton Street

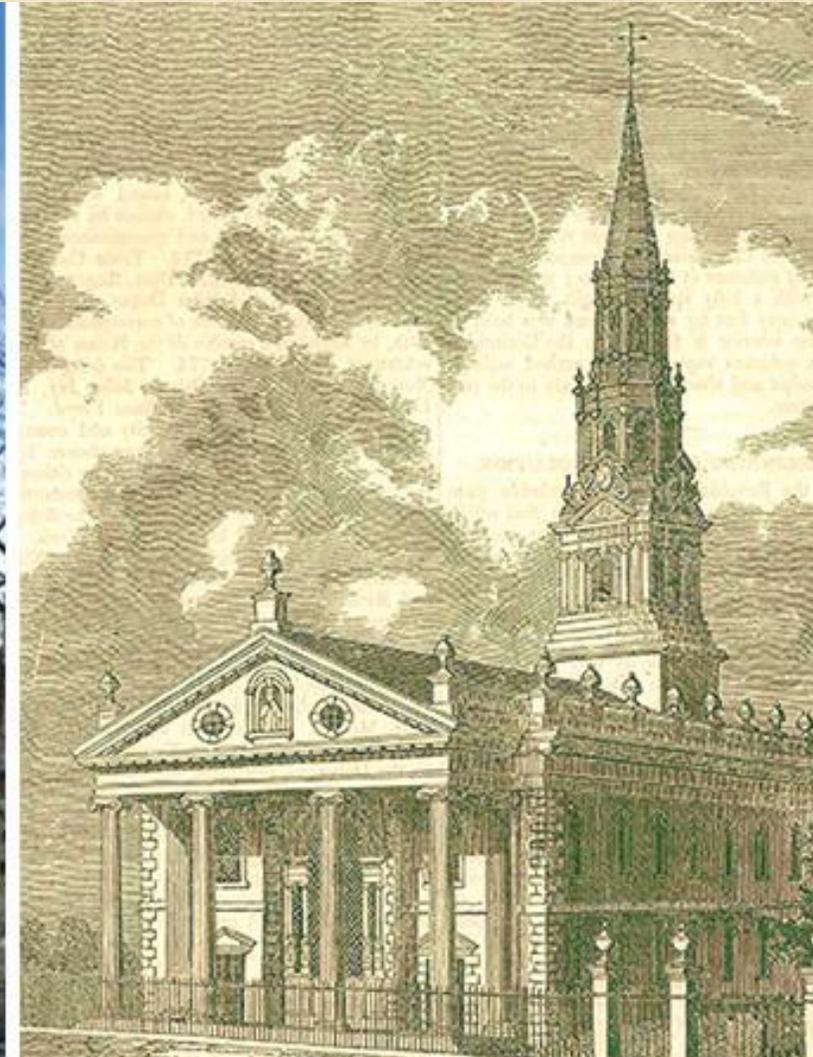
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- **Built as a country church** for those north of the City. The main entrance faces the river. **The Portico** on Broadway was constructed several years later
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- The **churchyard** is also worth a lengthy visit



# EARLY GRAVEYARDS

- African Burial Ground Memorial Site of 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> C graves - 26 Duane Street - modern setting
- Trinity Church graveyard - 1697
- St Paul's Graveyard - 1766
- First, Second, and Third Sheareth Israel Burial Grounds - in Chinatown - **Pearl St near Chatham Sq (pictured)**, W 11<sup>th</sup> St near 6<sup>th</sup> Ave and W 21<sup>st</sup> St near 6<sup>th</sup> Ave span the 17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries
- 10,000 graves remain in Washington Square - a Potter's Field from 1797 to 1826



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273 Water Street

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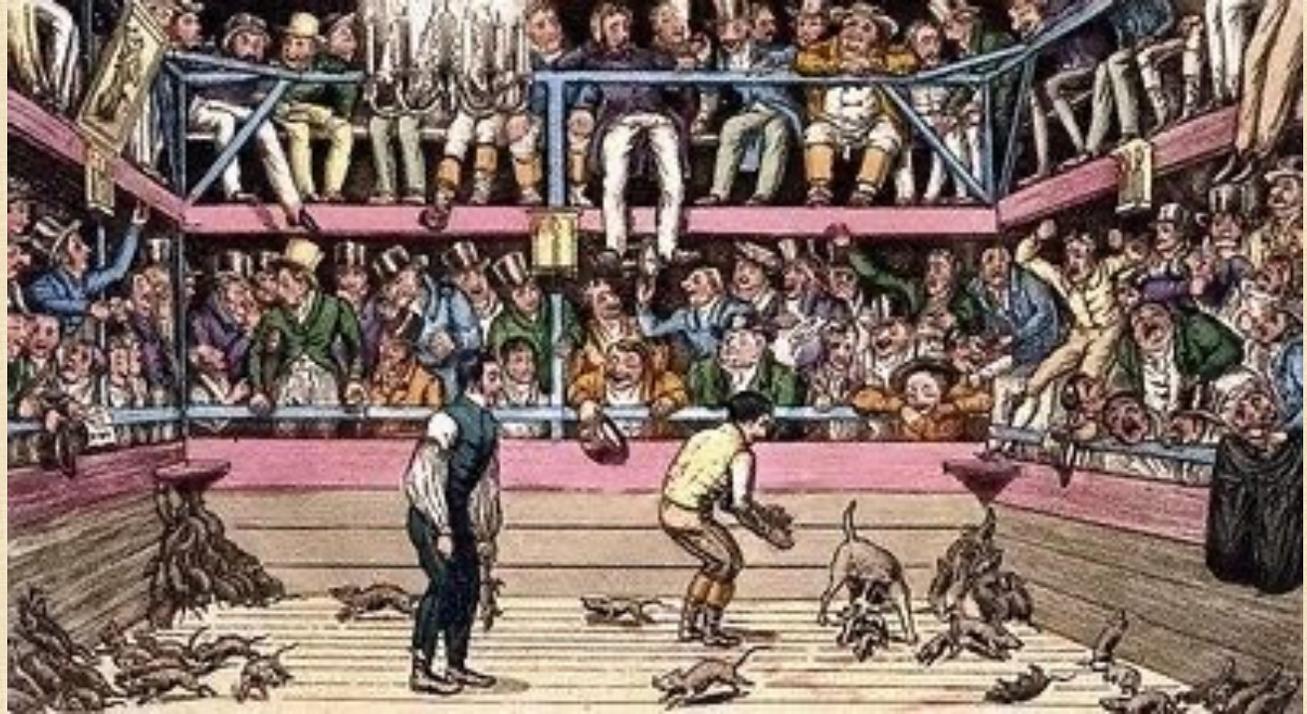
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- Rose built this as his **private home** – the East River lapped against his rear yard. Rose and his neighbor William Laight, shared a pier where they imported mahogany
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- In 1863, **Christopher "Kit" Burns**, one of the original "Dead Rabbits" bought the house and made it into "**Sportsmen's Hall**" with bare knuckle boxing, dancing, drinking and dog and rat fights
- In 1870 Burns was pressured to sell the house to the Williamsburg Methodist Home as a shelter for abandoned women



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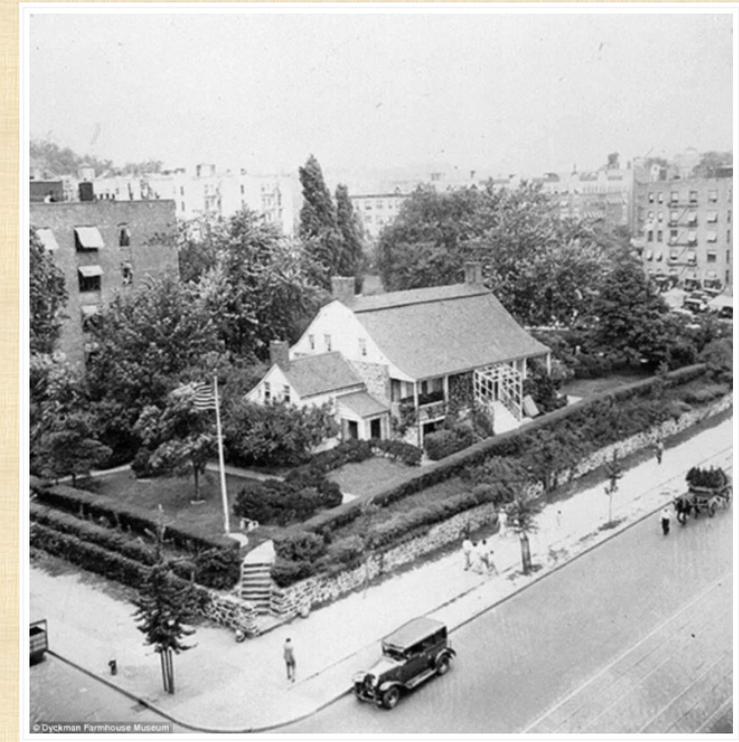
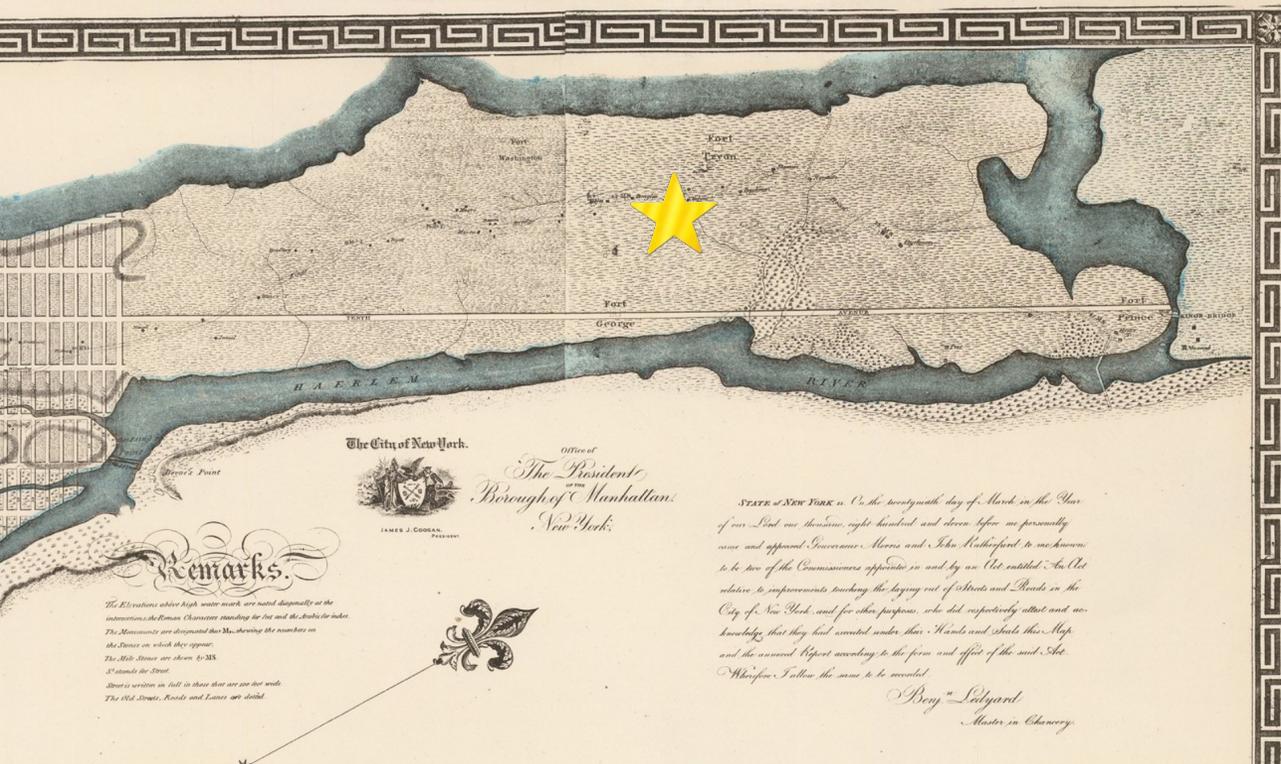
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- In 1974 the abandoned building was renovated into **four highly coveted apartments**



# Dyckman Farmhouse - 1783

4881 Broadway at W 204 Street

- Replaced a farmhouse and fields burned by the British during the Revolutionary War by Jacobus Dyckman, son of William, the owner, partially using slave labor
- The farm had been in the family since 1661



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- The farm had been in the family since 1661
- In 1868 the farm was **subdivided and auctioned off**, the largest auction of single-owned property in City history
- By the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the farmhouse was in serious disrepair. Sisters Mary Alice Dyckman Dean and Fannie Fredericka Dyckman Welch presented the house to the City. Their husbands spent a year restoring it

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- It opened as a **museum** in July 1916 and does much varied programming offsite as well

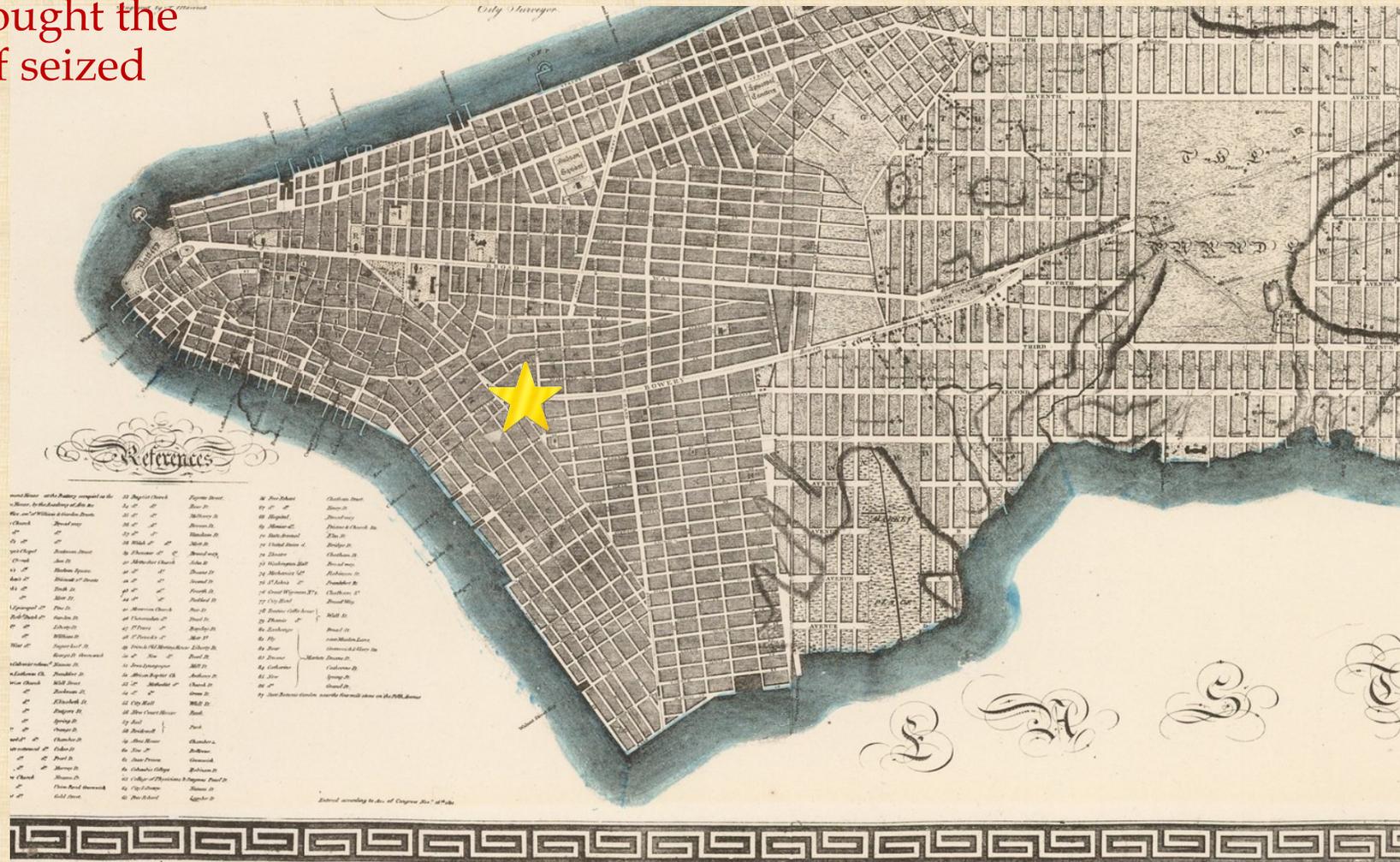


- **NOT accessible until after 2026**

# Edward Mooney House - 1789

## 18 Bowery

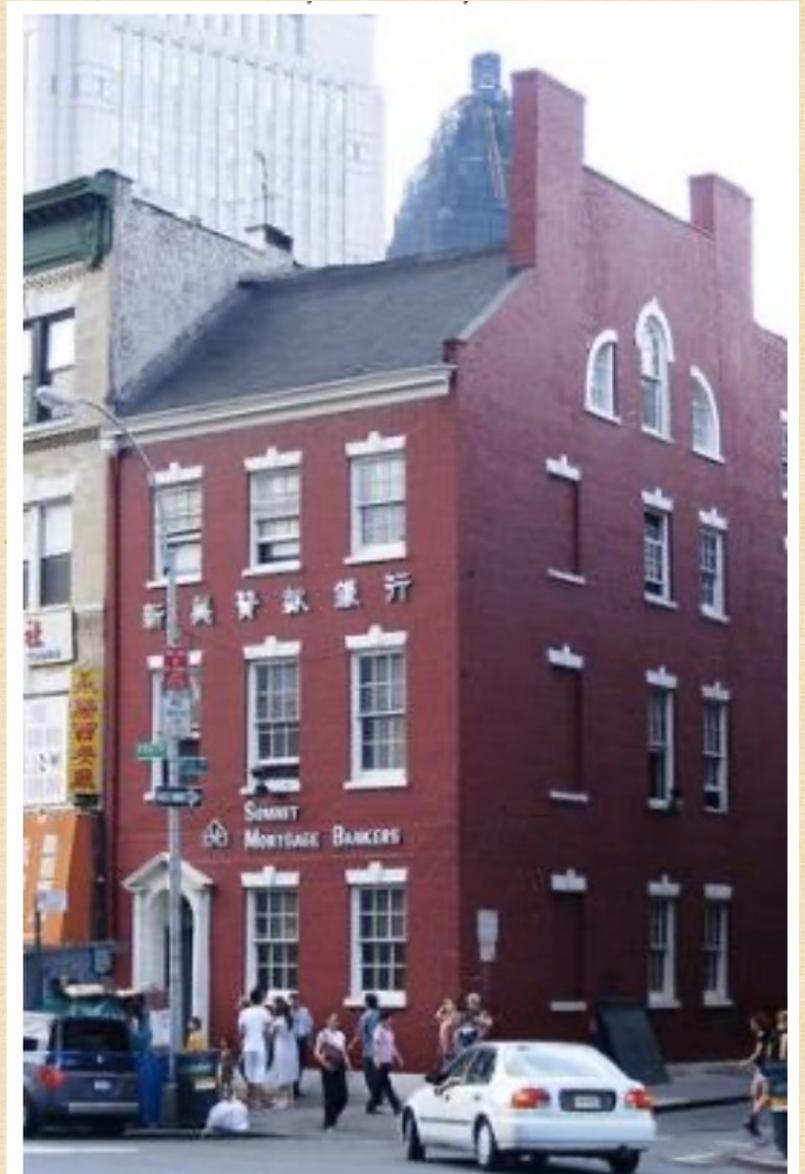
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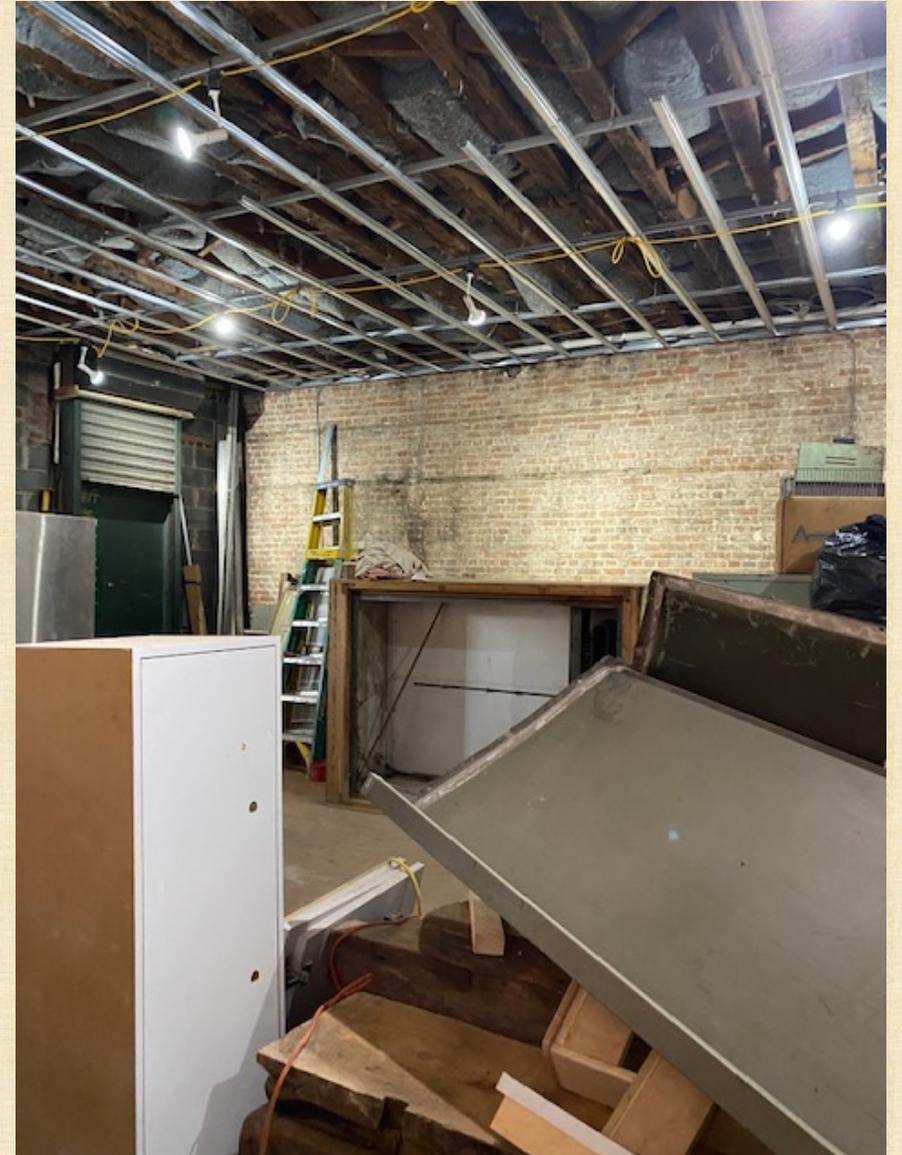
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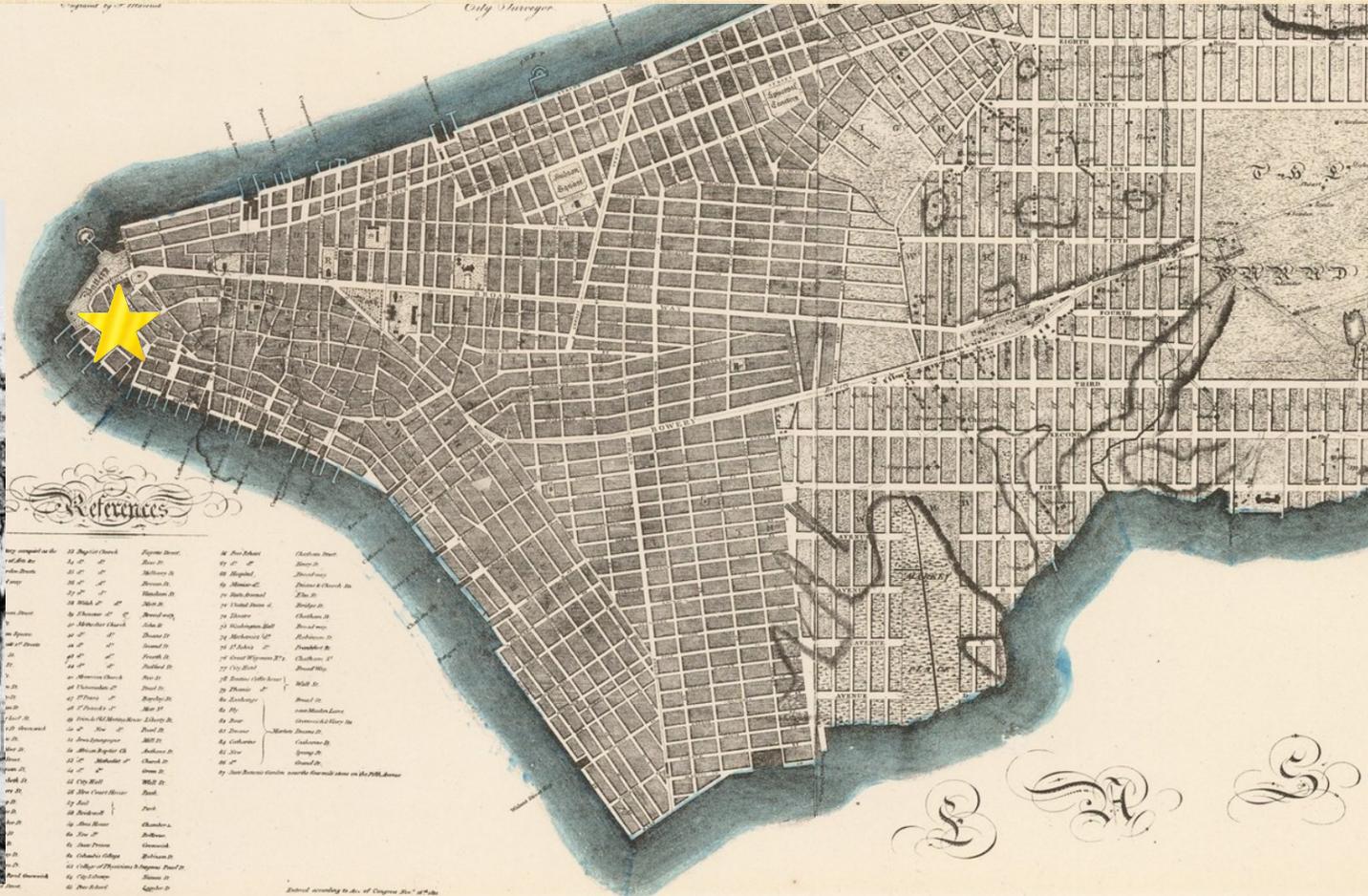
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- Until recently, one could enter. It is now **undergoing yet another renovation**



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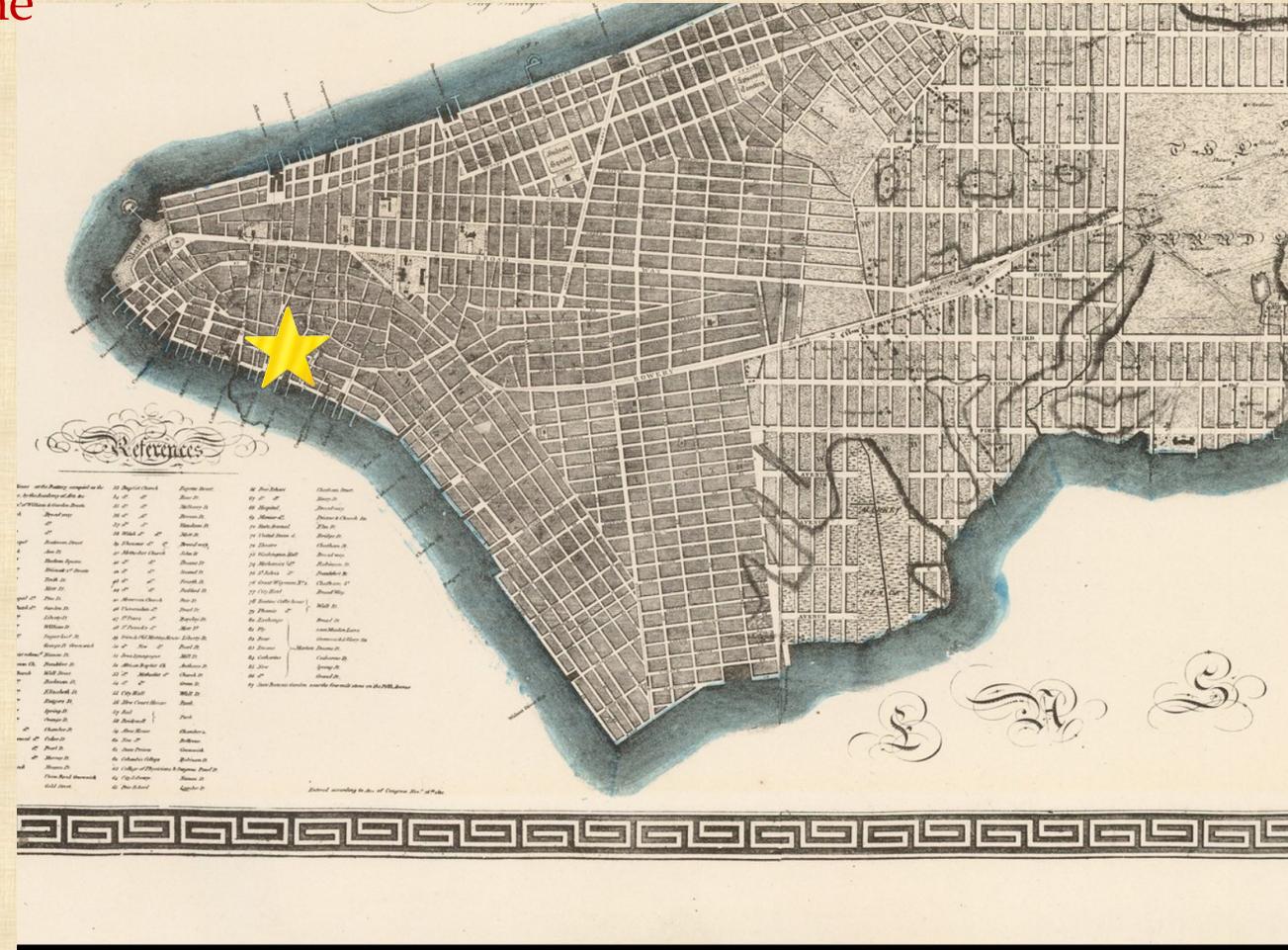
**"PRIVATE"**  
means "Go Away"



# An Endangered 18<sup>th</sup> Century Tavern - 1794

## Bridge Café - 279 Water Street

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References

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6. 1790	7. 1790	8. 1790	9. 1790	10. 1790
11. 1790	12. 1790	13. 1790	14. 1790	15. 1790
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71. 1790	72. 1790	73. 1790	74. 1790	75. 1790
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- The neighborhood declined - a rapid change of owners catered to the rough clientele
- Site of bait and drug crimes by prostitutes, at least one murder, and a multitude of other crimes
- On March 30, 1878 the area, including this house, was raided - nearly two dozen prostitutes jailed
- In 1888 the **building was modernized** - the roof raised and Victorian details hid its age
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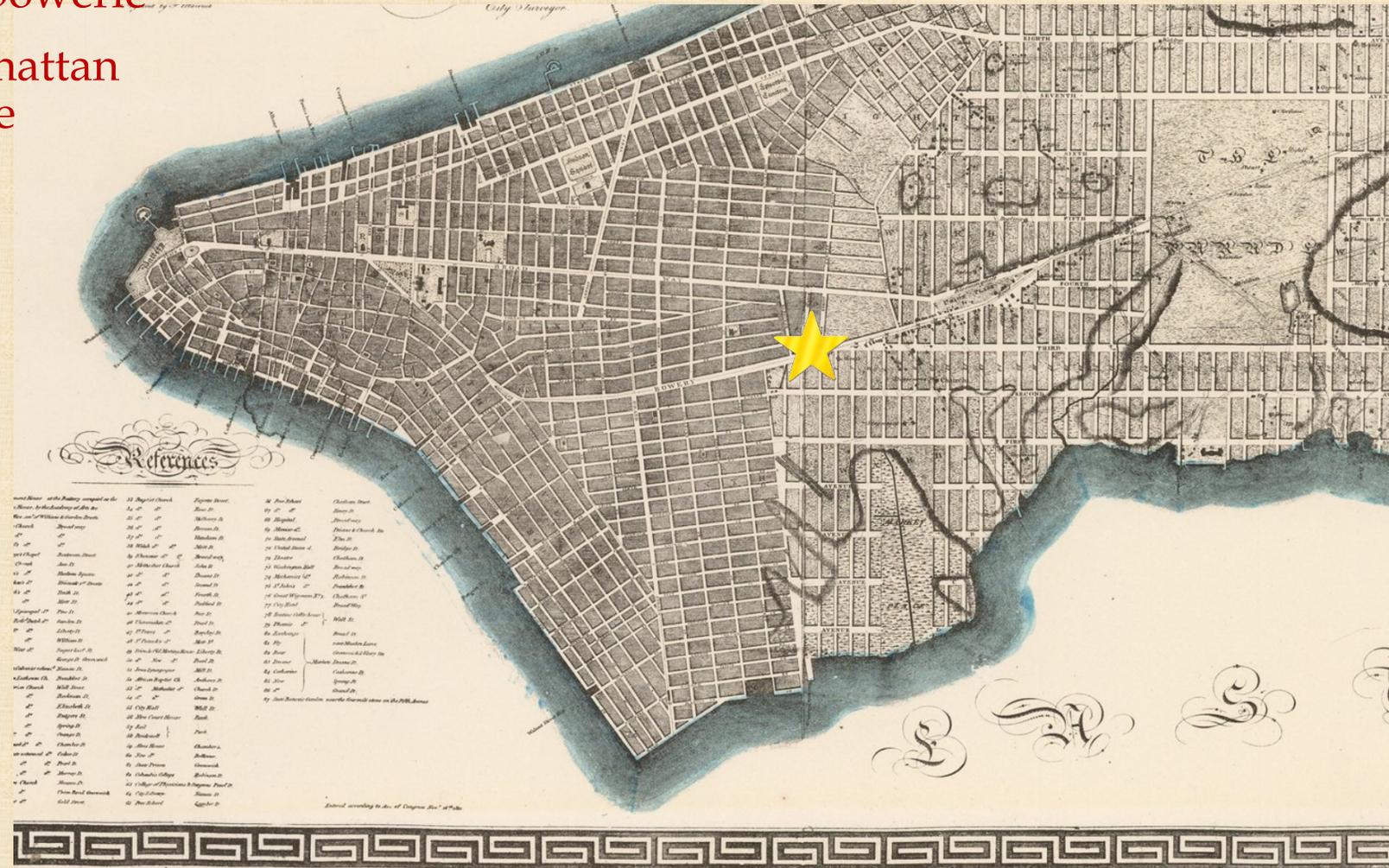
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- **Superstorm Sandy took a terrible toll on the building - future uncertain**



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44 Stuyvesant St. is on the sale market for the first time – ever



corcoran.com/listing/for-sale/44-stuyvesant-street-manhattan-ny-10003/21779893/regionId/1

SAVE SHARE CONTACT AGENT

### 44 Stuyvesant Street

East Village, Manhattan, NY 10003

**IN CONTRACT | SINGLE FAMILY TOWNHOUSE | BUILT IN 1795**

5 Beds 4 Baths/1 Half Bath 5500 Approx. Sqft Outdoor Space

**\$6,750,000**

Annual Tax: \$22,236.00  
Available Immediately  
Calculate your mortgage



# *Since you're in the neighborhood...*

## *Stuyvesant Street*

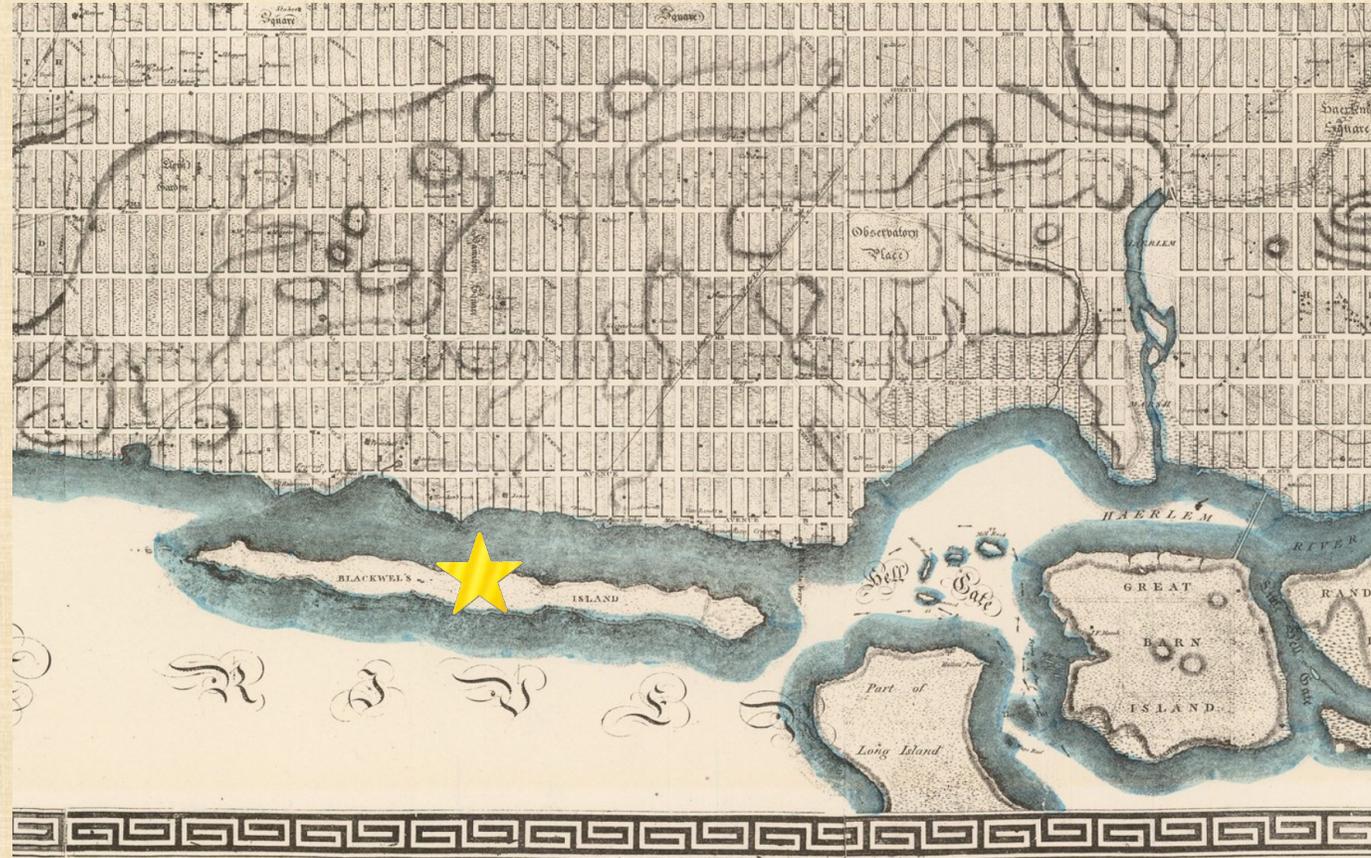
- While there, stroll up the block and take a gander at the **Hamilton-Fish House (1803)** at **21 Stuyvesant Street** built by Petrus Stuyvesant – Peter's great-grandson
- **St Mark's Historic District** - (Stuyvesant and E 10<sup>th</sup> Streets b/w 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Aves) worth an hour's stroll – including *St Mark's in the Bowery church* (upcoming) – and a chance to explore excellent restaurants, too



# Blackwell House - 1796

## Roosevelt (Blackwell's) Island

- Only other farmhouse surviving on Manhattan
- Some half-successful early attempts to farm “Hog Island” - used by the British as a penal colony during the Revolution



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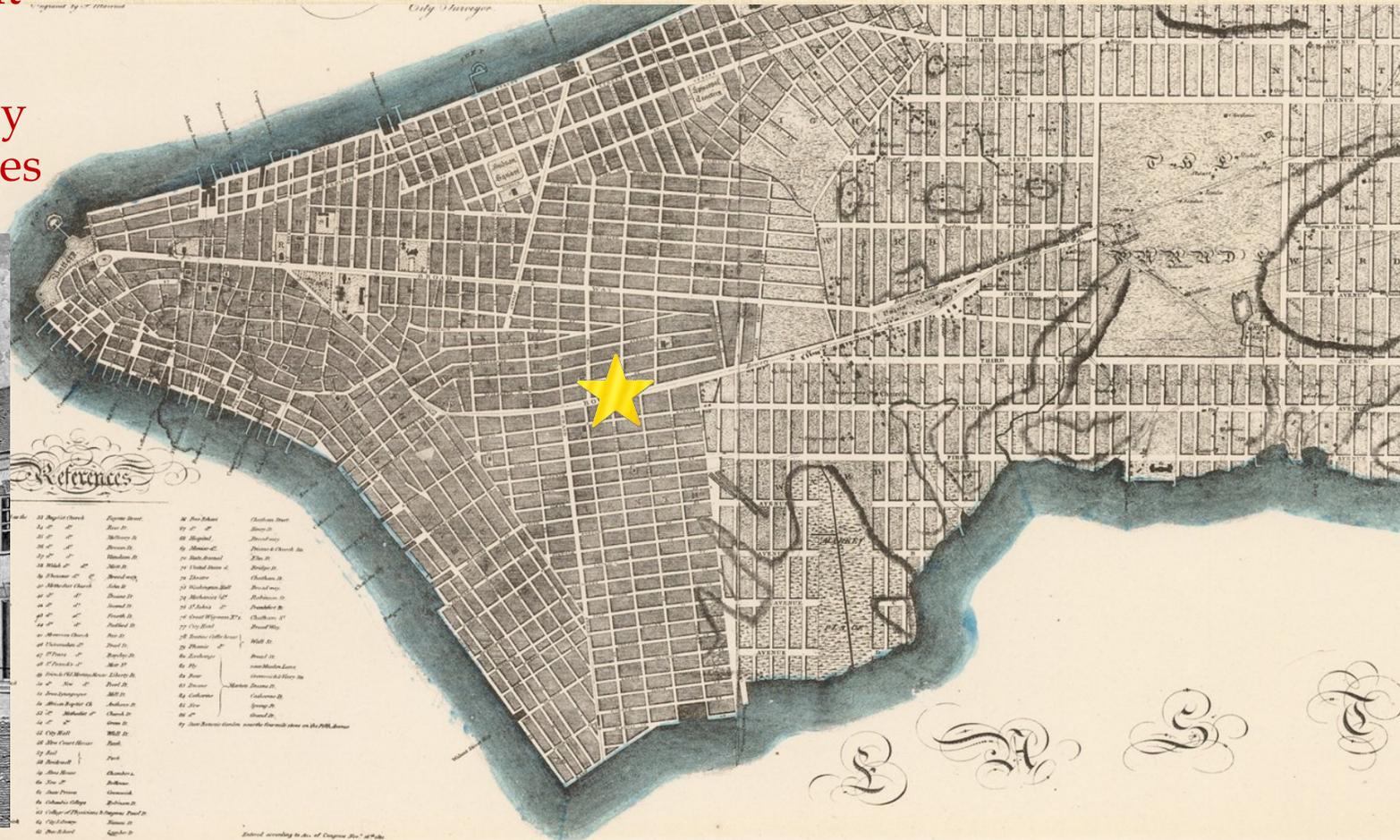
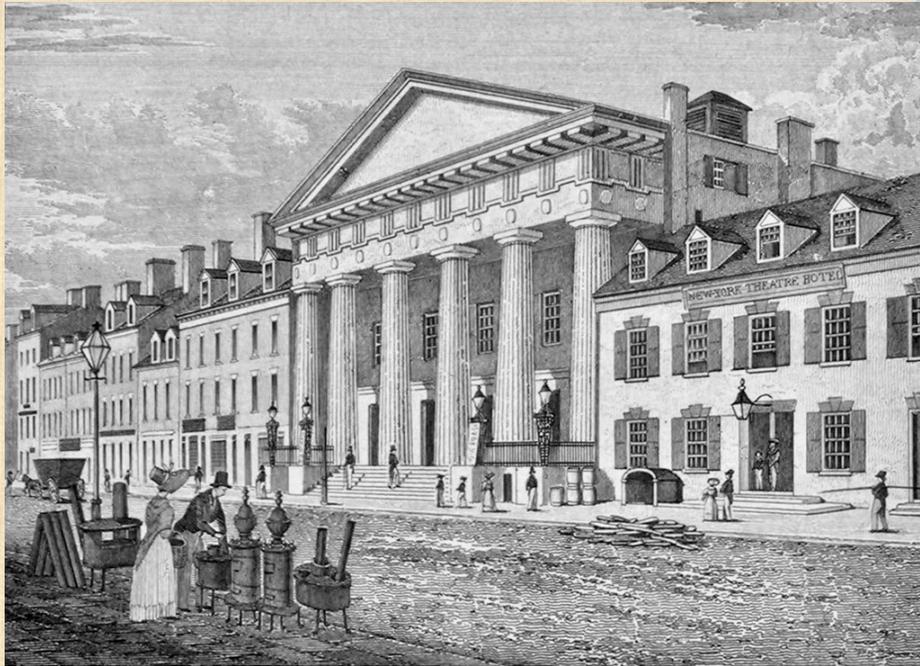
- Only other farmhouse surviving in Manhattan
- Some half-successful early attempts to farm the “Hog Island” - used by the British as a penal colony during the Revolution
- James Blackwell built this attractive farmhouse
- The City purchased the island in 1828, built a Smallpox Hospital, Almshouse, Penitentiary and several other institutional buildings
- The farmhouse was overlooked through the years
- The island's name changed again, to Welfare Island in 1921 - the buildings left to decay
- The farmhouse was rescued during the 1970s with redevelopment of Roosevelt Island
- Now a community center



# Federal Spec Houses - 1796

## 134-136 Bowery

- The oldest surviving speculatively built houses in New York
- Very elegant homes – by the 1830s they had succumbed to commercial pressures



# *Federal Spec Houses - 1796*

## *134-136 Bowery*

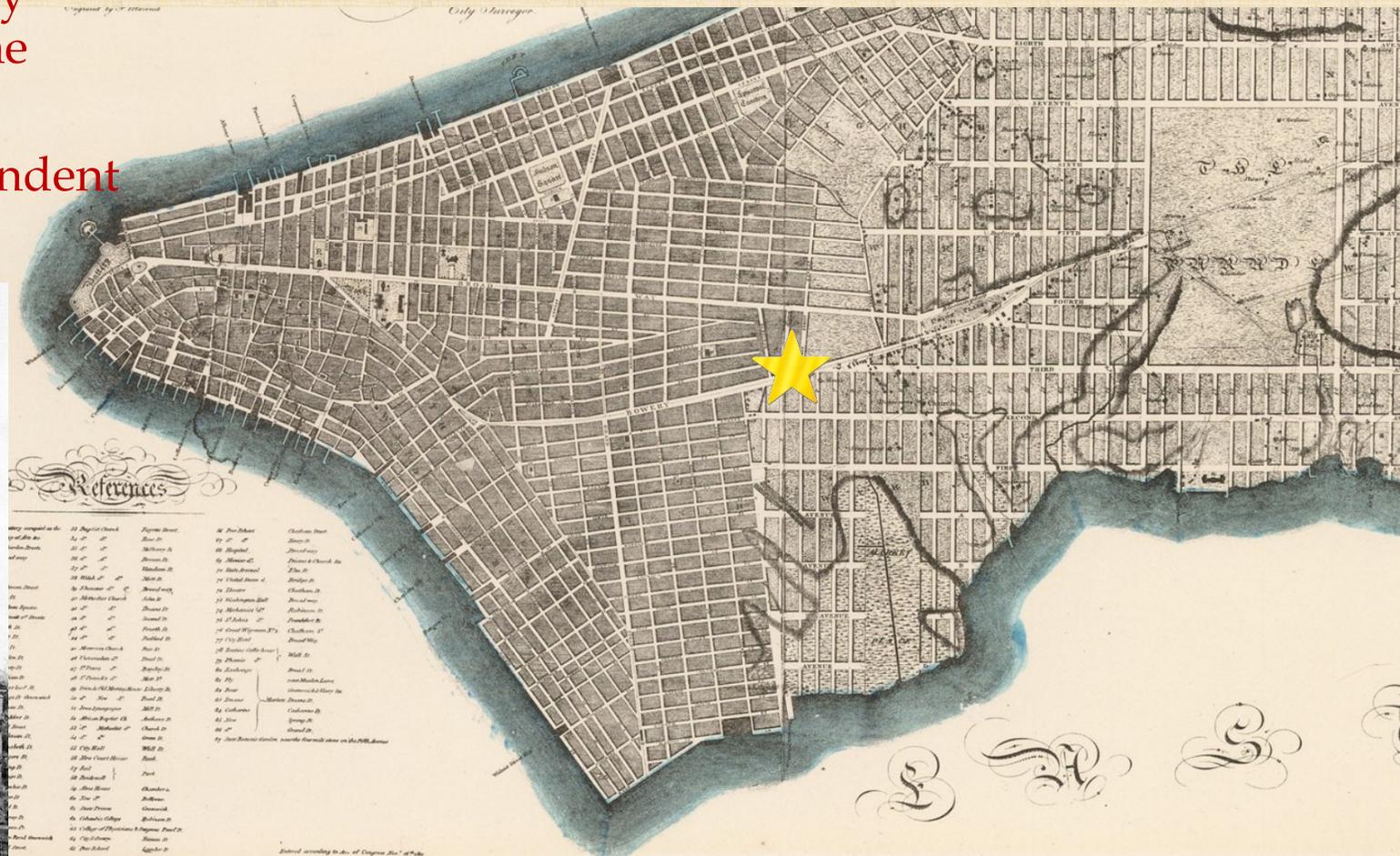
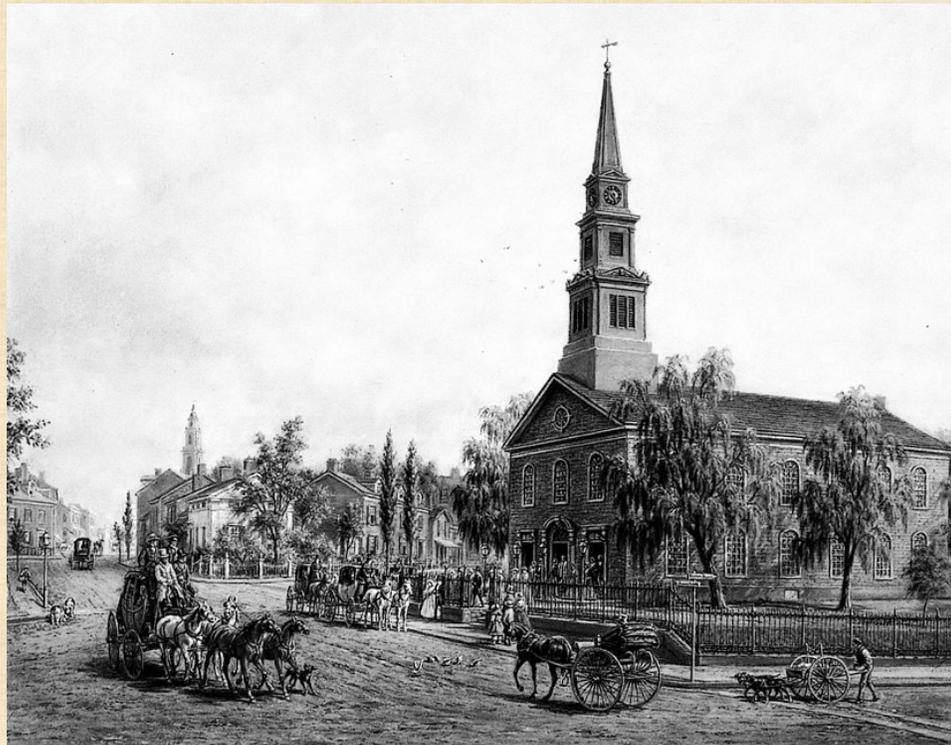
- The oldest surviving speculatively built houses in New York
- Very elegant homes – by the 1830s they had succumbed to commercial pressures
- The buildings served as a library, millinery shops, book shops, insurance brokers, a gunsmith, and boarding houses
- The Bowery Branch of the YMCA opened here in 1872 – temperance meetings on Monday evenings in the Carmel Chapel
- Ultimately a pool hall opened
- The artist Eva Hess and her husband sculptor Tom Doyle lived in 134
- **Repeated efforts to demolish and redevelop** have so far failed



# St. Mark's in the Bowery - 1799

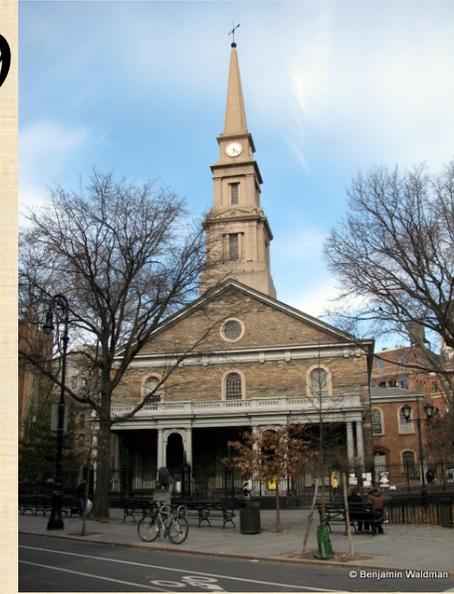
131 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street @ 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

- Built on the site of the Stuyvesant Family private chapel in their “bowerie” and the location of Peter Stuyvesant’s grave
- It was the first Episcopal church independent of Trinity Church in the New World



# St. Mark's in the Bowery - 1799

131 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street @ 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue



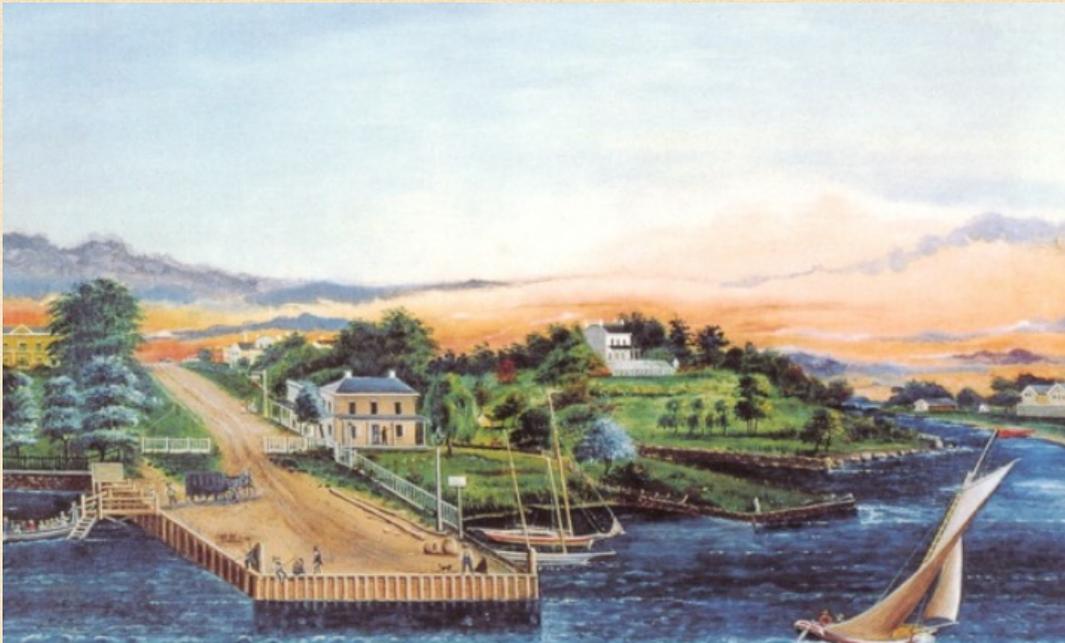
- Built on the site of the Stuyvesant Family private chapel in their “bowerie” and the location of Peter Stuyvesant’s grave
- It was the first Episcopal church independent of Trinity Church in North America
- Designed by John McCombe Jr in a manner suitable for elegant 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
- The steeple was added in 1828, the interior redesigned in a Grecian style in 1836, the porch in 1858 probably by James Bogardus
- The church gradually became involved with many alternative and counter-culture artists, poets, etc.
- In 1978 a catastrophic fire nearly destroyed the building and completely **gutted the interior**. It remains very active in the modern culture of NYC



# Mount Vernon Hotel (Museum) - 1799

421 East 61<sup>st</sup> St

- In 1795 Colonel William Stephens Smith and his wife Abigail Adams Smith (daughter of John Adams) began developing their 23 acre estate but ran out of money
- In 1798 prosperous merchant William T. Robinson purchased "**Mount Vernon**" and completed the project, this being the carriage house



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- In 1924 the Colonial Dames of America restored the house as a museum honoring its Adams connection
- It now recreates the country resort years

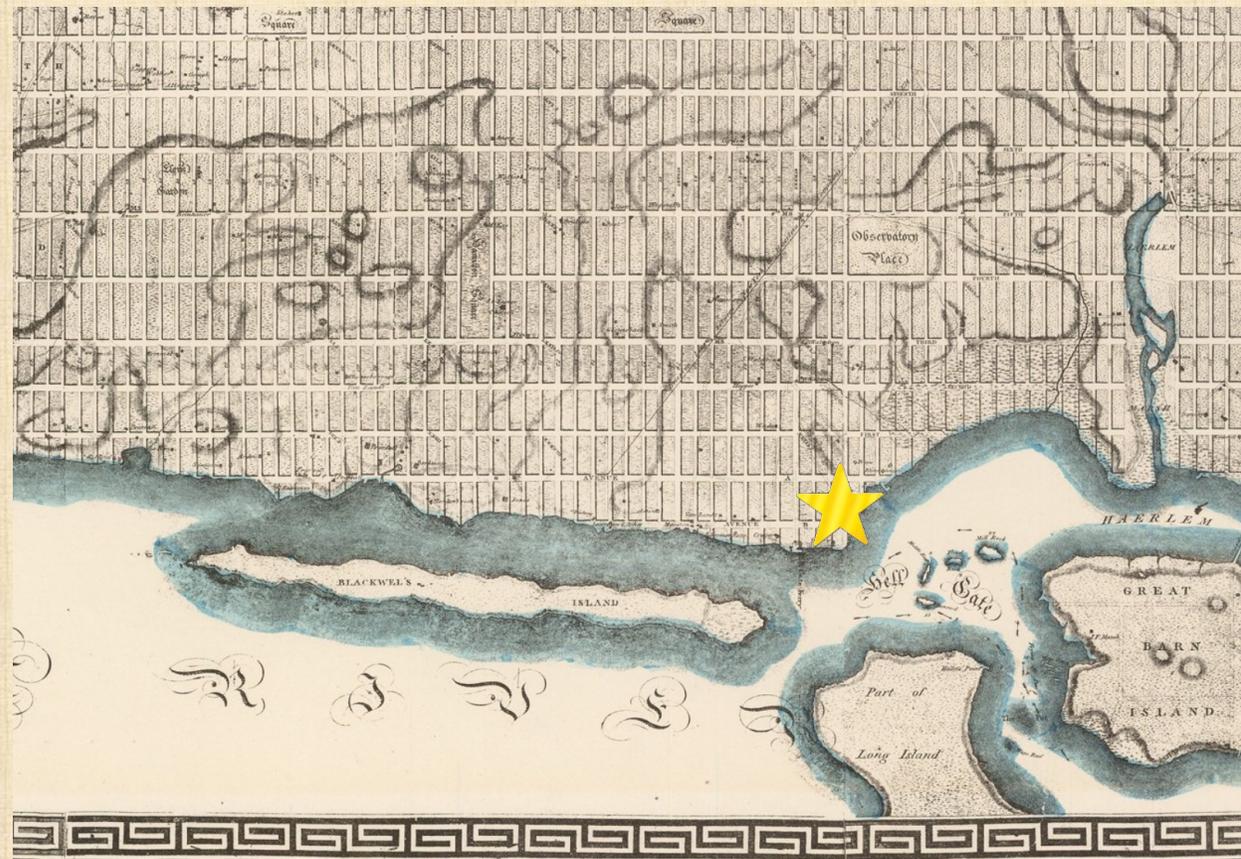


**(First Floor Accessible)**

# Gracie Mansion - 1799

Carl Schurz Park - East End Ave and E 88<sup>th</sup> Street

- Constructed by Archibald Gracie, who owned the largest fleet of merchant ships in NY, on a **strategic location** overlooking the East River on ruins of an estate bombarded by the British



# Gracie Mansion - 1799

## Carl Schurz Park - East End Ave and E 88<sup>th</sup> Street

- Constructed by Archibald Gracie, who owned the largest fleet of merchant ships in NY, on a strategic location overlooking the East River on ruins of an estate bombarded by the British
- Attributed to John McCombe Jr.
- The best of the elegant estates lining the East River
- Gracie lost the estate as a result of the War of 1812. There were two subsequent owners
- **In 1896 its 11 acres were appropriated by NYC to create Carl Schurz Park - the mansion became public toilets and an ice cream concession**
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- It's now the official residence of "Hizzoner" The Mayor and open for tours - **FULLY ACCESSIBLE**

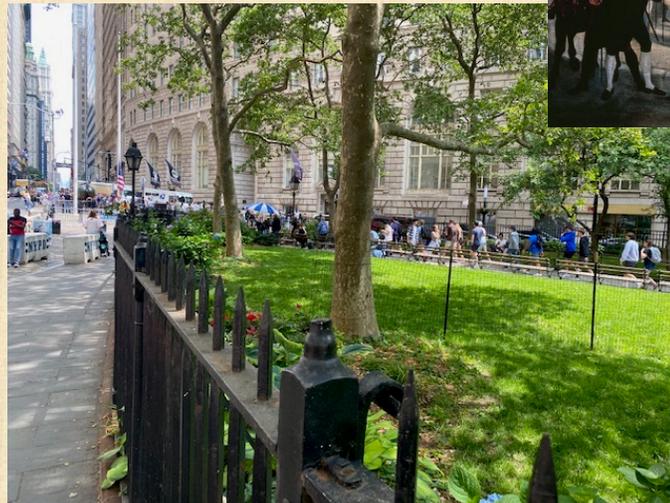
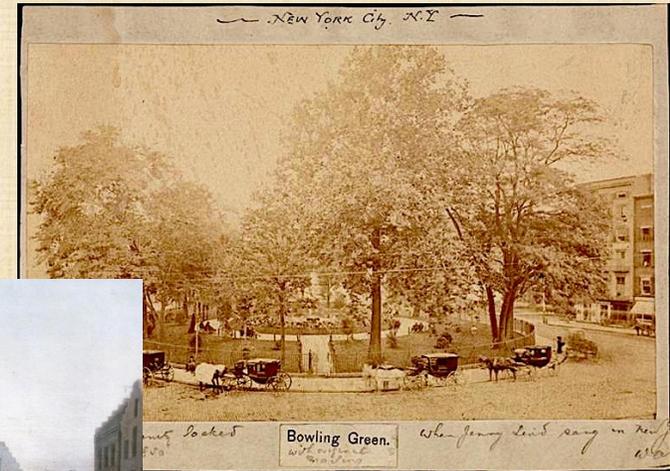




# Two 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Fences

## Bowling Green - foot of Broadway (1773)

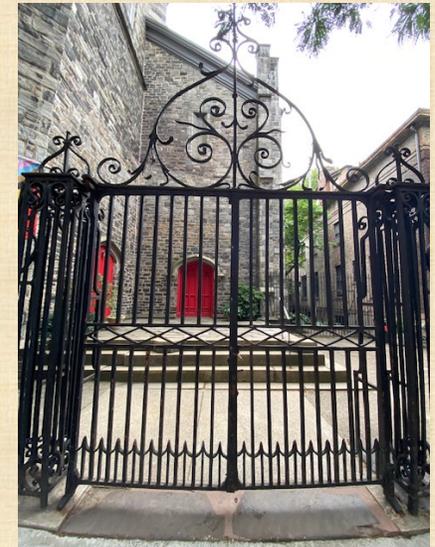
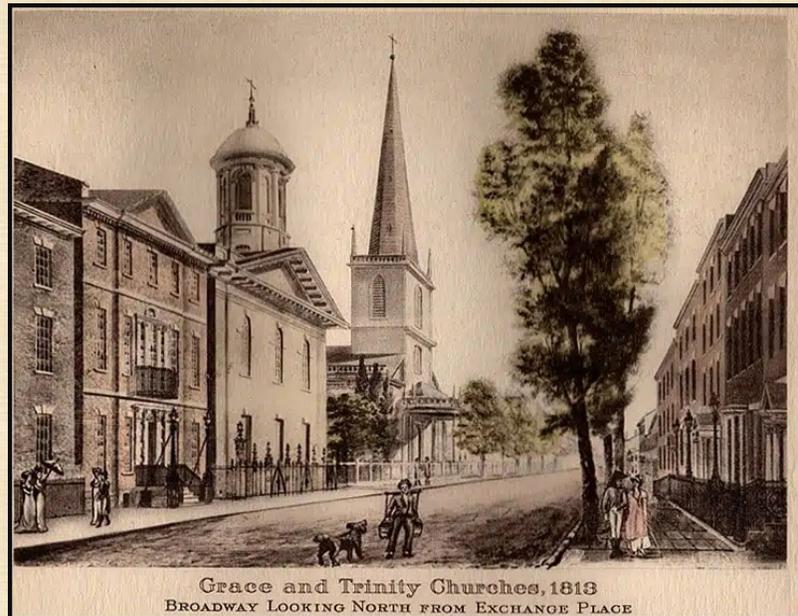
- Bowling Green is NYC's oldest park, going back to Dutch times - 1638 - and declared a park in 1733
- In 1770 an equestrian gilt lead statue of King George III was installed there
- Growing unrest led to statue vandalism - the fence was installed in 1773 to protect it
- The statue was toppled in 1776 and melted into bullets - early cancel culture - the fence is still there although shorn of its finials



# Two 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Fences

## St Peter's Chelsea - 346 W 20<sup>th</sup> St (fence: 1788; church: 1838)

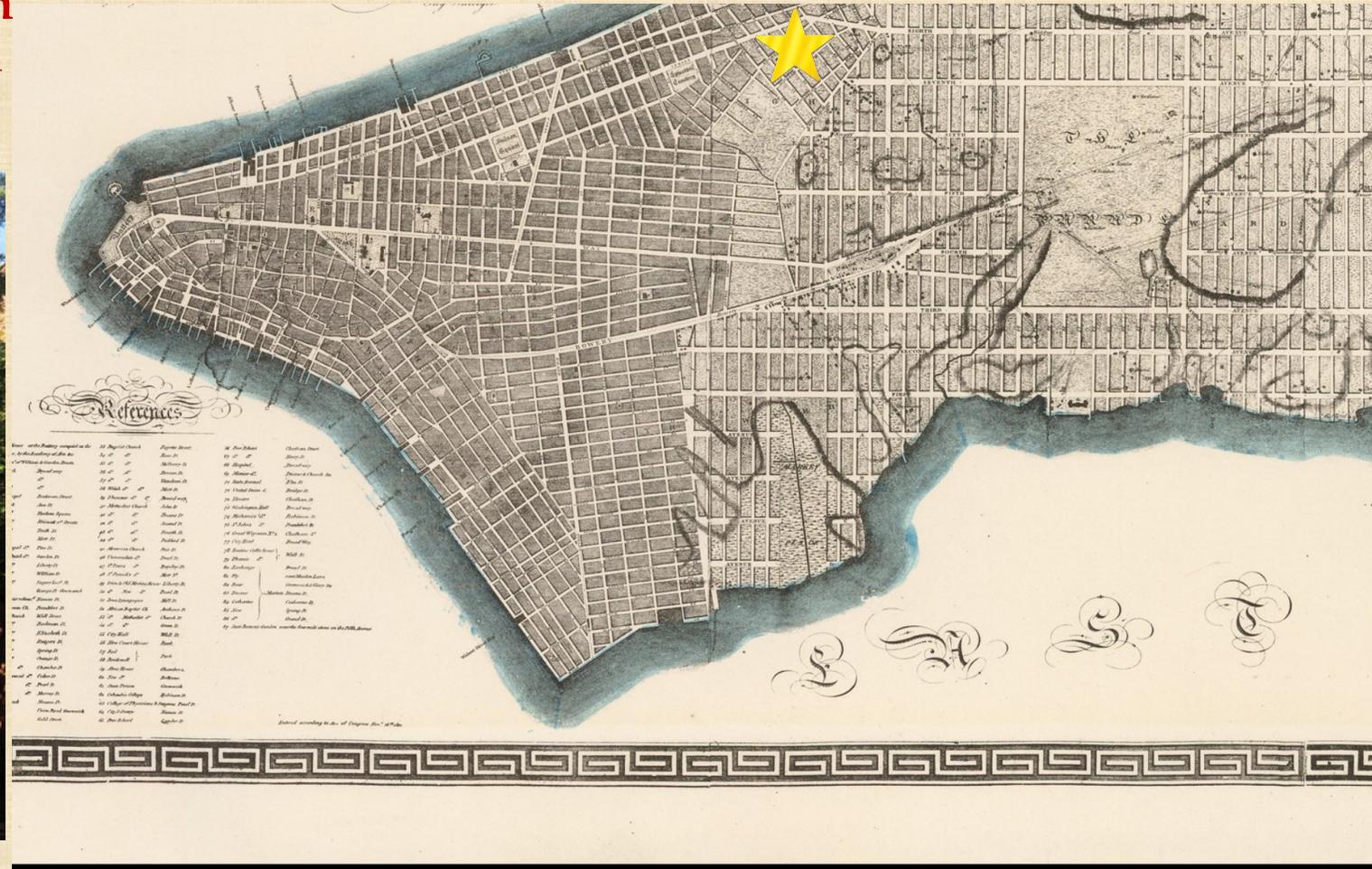
- The fence originally surrounded the second Trinity Church (1788-1839)
- Installed at St Peter's when demolition began for construction of the current Trinity Church



# Just Under the Wire - 1800

## Isaac-Hendricks House - 77 Bedford Street

- Begun in 1799 as a **free-standing wooden house surrounded by gardens** by Joshua Isaac in a mix of old and new styles



# *Just Under the Wire - 1800*

## *Isaacs-Hendricks House - 77 Bedford Street*

- Begun in 1799 as a free-standing house by Joshua Isaacs in a mix of old and new styles
- His son-in-law Harmon Hendricks is said to be America's first millionaire. They made a fortune in copper production
- Hendricks amassed a huge amount of real estate - 77 Bedford was a rental property with many stories to tell
- In 1836 it received a **brick veneer façade**



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- In 1836 it received a brick veneer façade
- In 1923, 77 Bedford and adjoining properties were liquidated to be developed as large buildings but **local artists purchased them** as multi-unit buildings to save them



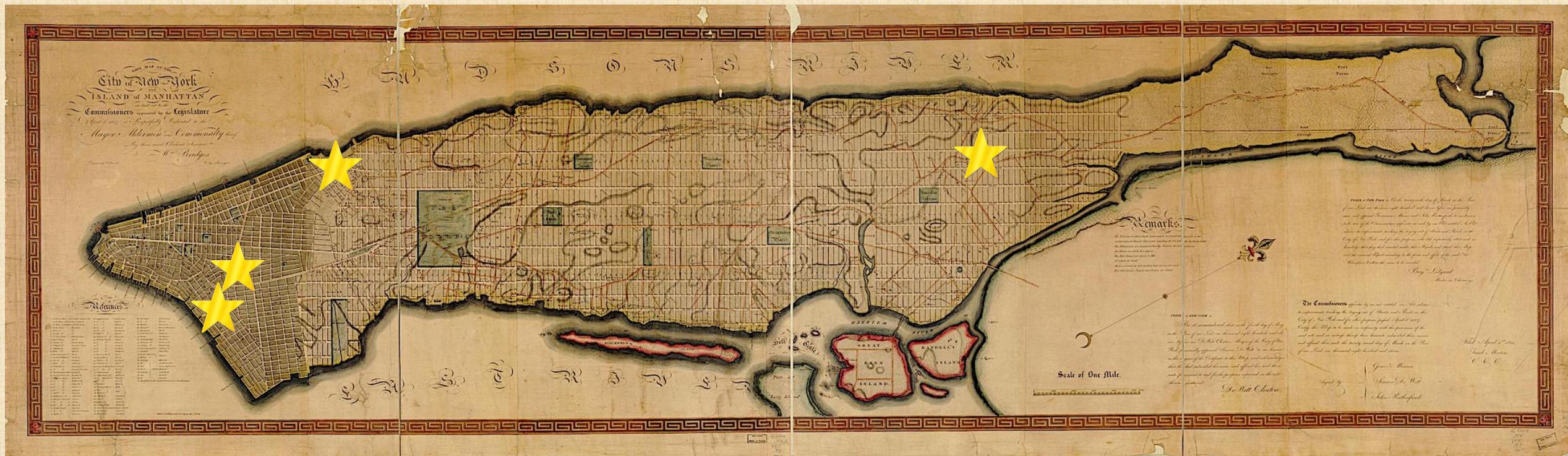
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- In 1836 it received a brick veneer façade
- In 1923, 77 Bedford and adjoining properties were liquidated to be developed as large buildings but local artists purchased them as multi-unit buildings to save them
- **Decrepit by 1989** it was restored by Jacqueline Thion de la Chaume as a single family home



which brings us to:  
**Four very early 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Sites of Interest**



# Hamilton Grange National Monument – 1802

## Alexander Hamilton's Country House – 414 West 141 Street

- Of extreme national importance
- Designed by John McCombe Jr
- Originally near 143rd Str and Convent Ave, (8 miles from the City) it's been relocated twice
- Hamilton enjoyed the 32 acre estate for just two years, until his duel with Aaron Burr
- His family owned it until 1834 - it was eventually bought by St Luke's Episcopal
- Moved to 287 Convent Ave to make way for 143rd St and the porches were stripped off
- Became a museum in 1933 - made a national monument in 1961 by JFK
- After years of discussion, it was finally relocated to St Nicholas Park in 2008 and restored – run by the National Park Service

**ACCESSIBLE**



# George Hauptman House and Store- before 1808

## 47 Madison Street

- Extremely rare survivor of a Federal townhouse + store, constructed on the Rutgers Farm lots
- Hauptman was a cabinetmaker. Later it became a grocery, and "Harry Jennings' Rat Pit" with rat fights - unspeakably seedy
- After an 1880s crackdown, it became a harness shop and a "tainted" dairy store - a story in itself
- The rooms upstairs were occupied by "ruffians and rowdies" as reported by the NY Times
- Later became an old coin shop, a grocery (again), a popular Greek restaurant - finally bought by St. James' Church as a Christian Fellowship hall and a home for wayward women
- Now an intergenerational counseling center



# Gideon Tucker House and Store - 1809

2 White Street

- Unusual throwback to Dutch style houses
- Tucker was a NYC School Commissioner, ran a plaster factory nearby. Home to Rev. Theodore S. Wright, outspoken Abolitionist, from 1842-1847
- An important stop in the Underground Railroad
- In the 1860s there was a dance hall in the basement called "Shadow City." The shop has been a cigar store, a travel agency, a footwear shop, a barbershop and a long-time liquor store.
- In the 1990s it became the "Liquor Store Bar" for ten years. Now a menswear retailer, it has retained all the old liquor store signage as part of its branding.



# James Brown House (the Ear Inn) - 1817

326 Spring Street

- In 1817 this lot abutted the Hudson River - today it's two blocks inland
- Brown, formerly enslaved, built a fine house and ran a tobacco store catering to dock workers and sailors
- Sold in 1830, it became an apothecary, grocery, and a crockery store. Families lived upstairs. Thomas Cloke made it into a bar in 1890
- Prohibition forced the bar to transform into a restaurant, "The Green Door," but no one was fooled - it remained a bar
- In 1979 Richard Wayman, editor of the music magazine "Ear" bought the building. He used black paint to change the neon "Bar" sign to "Ear." The building remains remarkably intact and is decorated with artifacts found within

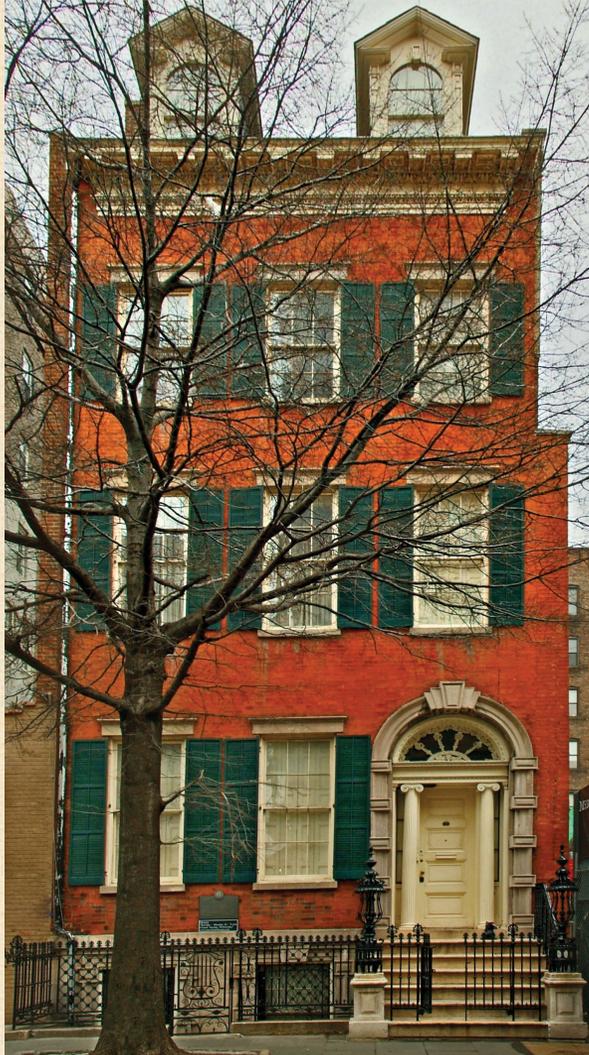


# Special 19<sup>th</sup>-C Homes Open to the Public



# *Merchant's House Museum – 1832*

*Seabury Tredwell House – 29 East Fourth Street*

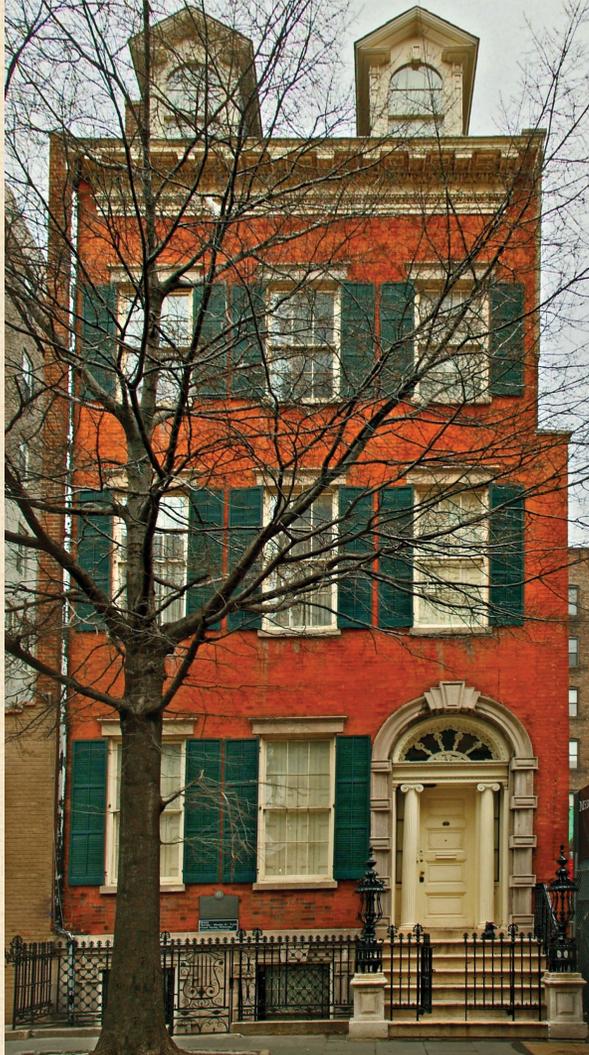


*“New York’s only intact  
19<sup>th</sup>-Century family home” and  
the first landmark to be  
designated in Manhattan (1965)*

**(not accessible)**

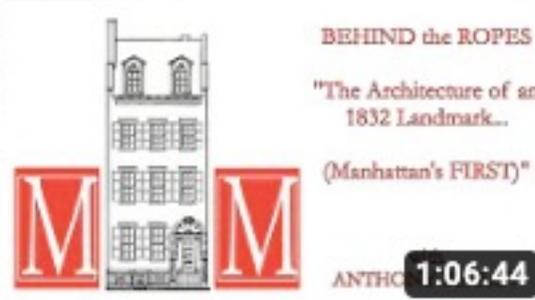
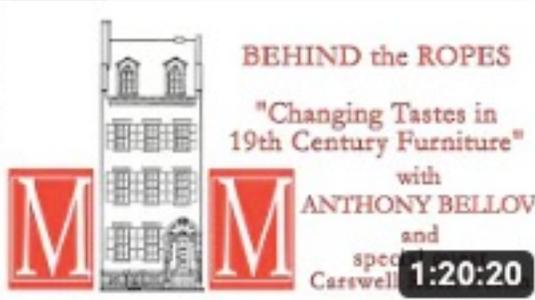
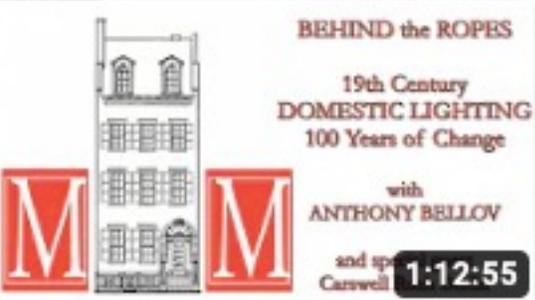
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 <p>BEHIND the ROPES "The Architecture of an 1832 Landmark... (Manhattan's FIRST)" ANTHONY BELLOV 1:06:44</p>	 <p>BEHIND the ROPES "Changing Tastes in 19th Century Furniture" with ANTHONY BELLOV and special Carroll 1:20:20</p>	 <p>BEHIND the ROPES 19th Century DOMESTIC LIGHTING 100 Years of Change with ANTHONY BELLOV and special Carroll 1:12:55</p>
<p><b>MHM BtR Architecture w Intro</b></p> <p>74 views • 6 days ago</p>	<p><b>Merchant's House Museum - Behind the Ropes - 19th...</b></p> <p>168 views • 6 days ago</p>	<p><b>Merchant's House Museum - Behind the Ropes Tour - 19t...</b></p> <p>46 views • 6 days ago</p>

"Behind the Ropes" tours on YouTube

# Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site - 1846

28 East 20<sup>th</sup> Street

Essentially a recreation of  
TR's 19<sup>th</sup> Century birthplace  
and childhood home

(semi-accessible)

Before 1923



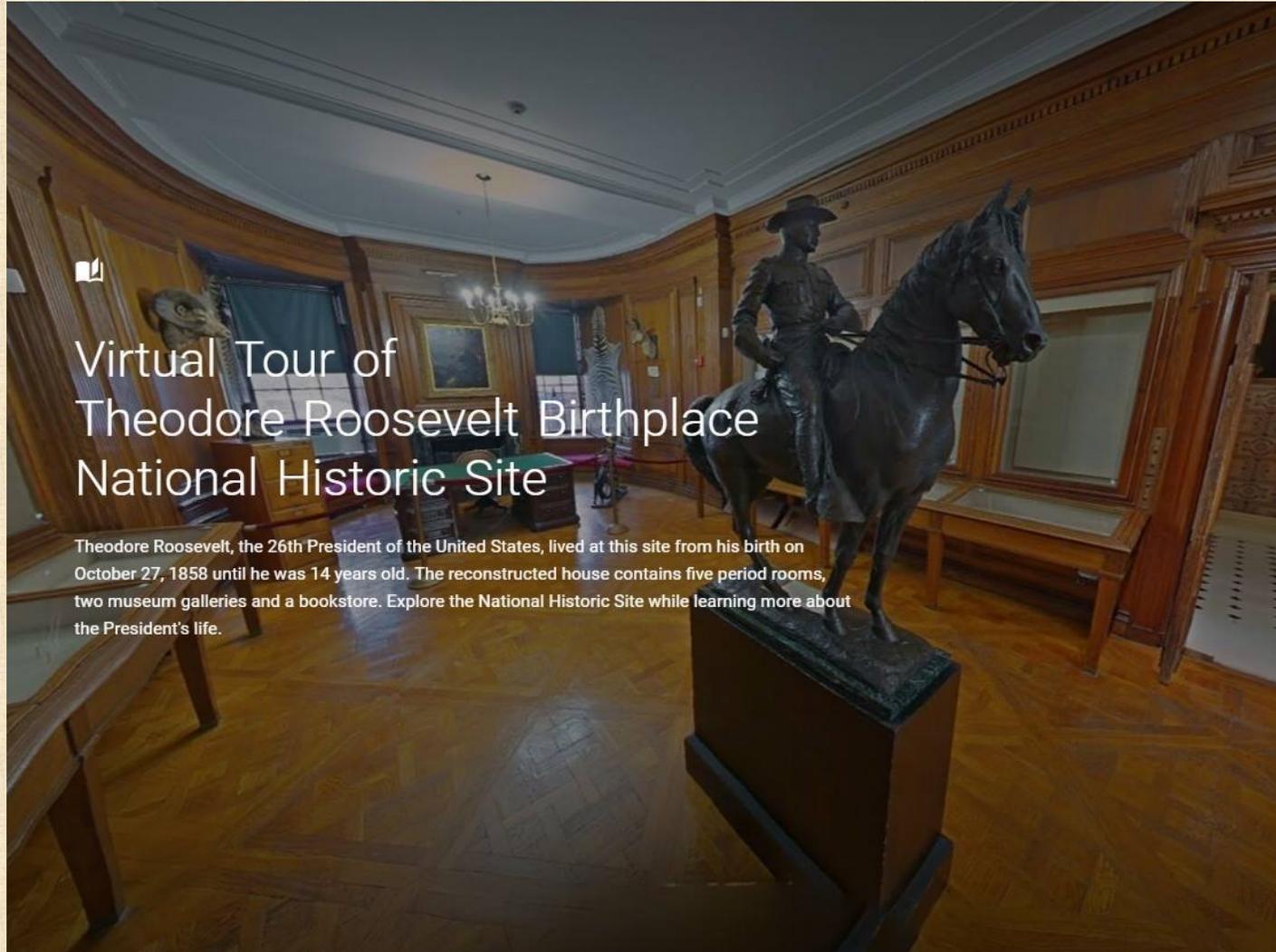
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28 East 20<sup>th</sup> Street



On website (National Park Service)



# *Salmagundi Club - 1853*

*Hawley Mansion - 47 Fifth Avenue at East 12<sup>th</sup> Street*



**Fifth Avenue's oldest remaining mansion  
and  
the oldest artist's club in NYC  
Open to the Public!**

**(accessibility studies underway)**

One of several 19<sup>th</sup> C private mansions  
converted to clubhouse status.  
The NAC and Players are other examples.

# *Salmagundi Club - 1853*

*Hawley Mansion - 47 Fifth Avenue at E 12<sup>th</sup> Street*



# Salmagundi Club - 1853

## Hawley Mansion - 47 Fifth Avenue at E 12<sup>th</sup> Street



before salmagundi bellov

Ownership Timeline  
• 1833-1893 - Irad & Sarah Hawley Family

"Before Salmagundi: The Evolution of an 1853 Fifth Avenue Mansion" (Part 1) with Anthony Bellov  
579 views • 7 months ago

SalmagundiClub  
Built in 1853 for the wealthy Hawley Family, elegant 47 Fifth Avenue had already been a residence for 64 years when the ...

Building a Mansion in 1853 | O Sole Mio - The Italianate | The City was turning BROW... 9 moments

Then and Now...

Grand Staircase - 2023 & 1853

"Before Salmagundi: The Evolution of an 1853 Fifth Avenue Mansion" Part II 1/17/23 - Anthony Bellov  
256 views • 4 months ago

SalmagundiClub  
Now the oldest surviving mansion on Fifth Avenue and a revered NYC Landmark, architectural sleuth and club member A...

Francis Morrone "An Architectural Guidebook to BROOKLYN" | O Sole Mio - The... 10 moments

In our last episode...

"Before Salmagundi" - Part III "Downstairs-Upstairs" w Anthony Bellov & Annie Haddad, Mar 23, 2023  
84 views • 2 months ago

SalmagundiClub  
Before Salmagundi: The Evolution of an 1853 Fifth Avenue Mansion" PART THREE (FINALE) - March 23, 2023, Salmagundi Club ...

"Before Salmagundi" on YouTube

# *A Mansion in Bloomingdale - 1901*

*The Nicholas Roerich Museum 319 W 107 Street*

A rare physically intact survivor  
of the Upper West Side's gilded  
age townhouses and a wonderful  
repository of a visionary's art

**(not accessible)**

originally Professor F.R. Hutton Residence



# A Mansion in Bloomingdale - 1901

The Nicholas Roerich Museum 319 W 107 Street



# Thoughts About Visiting Historic Buildings

- **Expect** Stairs and ADA issues
- **Call ahead** for info and to confirm hours
- **Anticipate** a certain amount of discomfort  
(no seating, no A/C, no café, etc)
  
- DO **explore** the “hood” around the location
- Many historic houses have online presence – check out **YouTube and websites**
- I recommend (and thank) Tom Miller’s ***DaytonianInManhattan*** blogpost - digs deeply into many Manhattan buildings



Staircase, Merchant's House Museum

# *Early Survivors:*

*Easily Accessed Traces of 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Manhattan*

**THANK YOU**

*Bloomingtondale Aging in Place (BAiP)  
Anthony Bellov*