



**NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION
COMMISSION**

Robert B. Tierney
Chairman

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**HOLLAND PLAZA BUILDING, NOW ONE HUDSON SQUARE, IN LOWER MANHATTAN
IS NAMED A NEW YORK CITY LANDMARK**

*Modern-Classical Manufacturing Building, Completed in 1930 at the Mouth of the Holland Tunnel,
Was Designed by Ely Jacques Kahn, One of the Most Celebrated Architects of the 20th Century*



The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission today unanimously voted to grant landmark status to the former Holland Plaza Building in the Hudson Square section of Manhattan, a c. 1930 modern-classical style industrial structure designed by the celebrated architect Ely Jacques Kahn.

Located on an irregular, triangle-shaped lot at 75 Varick St. chosen to take advantage of its proximity to the Holland Tunnel, the massive 18-story building is distinctive for its textured, grid-like façade that reflects the influence of German and Dutch Expressionists of the late teens and early 1920s. The building's early tenants included many firms in the printing and related trades such as the Royal Typewriter Company, the American Book Bindery and the MacMillan Company.

Kahn, who designed more than 30 office and commercial buildings in Midtown and Lower Manhattan between 1924 and 1931, is best known for his use of the Art Deco style in many of his commissions, such as the ground floor vestibule and lobby of the Film Center Building (930 Ninth Avenue) and 2 Park Avenue (at 33rd Street), both in Manhattan.

Commissioned by Abe Adelson, a garment manufacturer-turned developer who frequently hired Kahn, the Holland Plaza Building was constructed during a time when the area around Canal Street changed dramatically before and after the Holland Tunnel opened in 1927. By 1929, 14 new industrial buildings were constructed in the area, adding millions of square feet of industrial and office space.

The building's façade, noteworthy for the absence of applied ornament, is comprised of a series of strong vertical piers balanced by horizontal, textured spandrels with projecting corner blocks and a layered plaque at their meeting points. Its two main façades, on Canal and Varick streets, include pedestrian entrances that are emphasized by a central group of projecting, over-scaled piers, and the Watts Street façade is dominated by a long row of vehicular loading bays.

"This building is truly a masterpiece and displays a dramatic style that makes it stand out among the other warehouses and commercial structures in the neighborhood," said Commission Chairman Robert B. Tierney.

Now known as One Hudson Square, the building is currently owned by Trinity Real Estate. Its current tenants include Getty Images, the Jackie Robinson Foundation, Bliss World LLC and New York Magazine.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is the mayoral agency responsible for protecting and preserving New York City's architecturally, historically and culturally significant buildings and sites. Since its creation in 1965, LPC has granted landmark status to more than 31,000 buildings and sites, including 1,333 individual landmarks, 115 interior landmarks, 10 scenic landmarks, 109 historic districts and 20 historic district extensions in all five boroughs. Under the City's landmarks law, considered among the most powerful in the nation, the Commission must be comprised of at least three architects, a historian, a realtor, a planner or landscape architect, as well as a representative of each borough.

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