



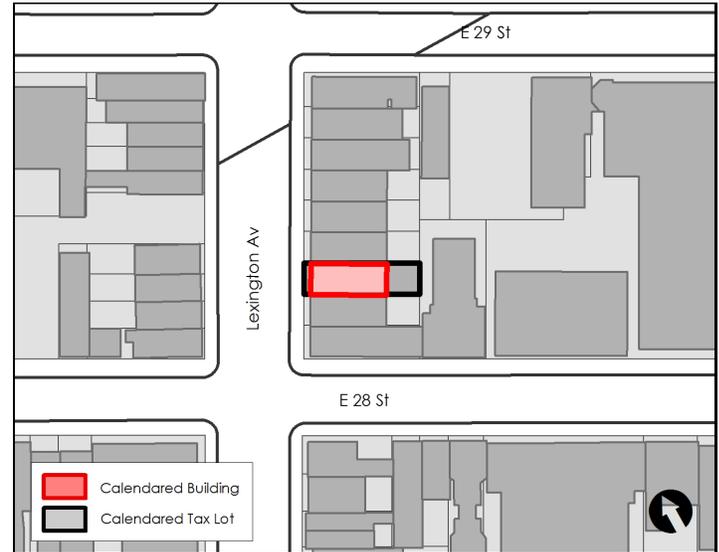
**NYC**  
**Landmarks Preservation Commission**

**President Chester A. Arthur House**

123 Lexington Avenue, Manhattan  
Manhattan Block: 00884 Lot: 0024

**Backlog Initiative: Addressing 95 Properties**  
Manhattan B Group 1 Items

Manhattan Community Board 6  
Public Hearing Date(s): 12/27/1966



Photos 2014

**Special Public Hearings**

The Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the backlog of buildings in the Borough of Manhattan on **November 12, 2015** and encourages interested parties to submit written testimony in advance of that hearing. Each speaker will be given three minutes total to speak, and in that time may address all of the items within Manhattan B Group 1, just particular items, or add comments to support written testimony. In order to conduct efficient hearings, we ask speakers to register in advance, and submit their written statements and materials that will be read at the hearing by **November 5, 2015** to [backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov](mailto:backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov). If you are unable to attend the hearing, your written submissions will be entered into the record and distributed to the Commissioners.

If you have questions about this property or the hearing process please contact [backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov](mailto:backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov) or call (212) 669-7817. If you would like more information about this property, please see the research file summary (over) and go to our website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/backlog95>) and click on the link for this building's research file.



Landmarks Preservation  
Commission

President Chester A. Arthur House

Landmark Type: Individual

Built: 1855

Architect: Not determined

Style: Italianate

Research Staff Hearing Statement (1966)

*Here Dec 77-1966*

PRESIDENT CHESTER A. ARTHUR HOUSE

The President Chester A. Arthur house was originally one of nine similarly designed five storied structures completed in 1855 on the east side of Lexington Avenue between 28th and 29th Streets. Today, only their upper three floors are the same, the first and second having been altered to such an extent, that the row house architectural character of the group has been all but destroyed. The Arthur house and adjacent number 121 remain the least altered, particularly number 121 which still retains its outside steps and trim iron railings leading from the sidewalk level to the second, or parlor floor. The high entrance doors and transom at the second floor, of greater height than the others, is framed by a wide molded stone band, segmental head, and a horizontal series of moldings above supported on a row of brackets. Although extremely simple the proportions of the whole register dignity and scale. On the Arthur house, no doubt originally a facsimile of Number 121 the doorway motive has been altered to provide a street level entrance leaving only the segmental head and cornice with the frame terminating at the second floor level. The upper floors each have three segmental headed double hung windows with molded stone sills and cap molded lintels. A metal cornice on brackets, typical of so many brownstone fronts, crowns each building at the roof level. The buildings, of native brownstone color originally are now painted white.

It was in this house on September 20, 1882, that Chester Arthur took the oath of office of President of the United States following the assassination of President Garfield. The house had been purchased by his wife Ellen Herndon Arthur in 1858 and remained their home when he left office in March 1885 until his death the following year. The report that William Randolph Hearst who occupied Number 119, the Southern corner building of this historically distinguished row of houses, bought the Arthur house later for his own residential use has been disproved. Records show, however, he did buy it in 1901 to house automobiles on the ground level and provide quarters for a caretaker on the floors above.