

PROPOSED GREENWICH VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION II
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN



The proposed Greenwich Village Historic District Extension II includes row houses, tenements, stables, and public and institutional structures that illustrate the growth of the neighborhood from its origins as an affluent residential area in the early 19th century to a vibrant community of artists and working-class immigrants in the early 20th century.

The proposed extension comprises two sections encompassing approximately 235 buildings. The larger section includes all or part of eleven blocks between West 4th Street to the north, West Houston Street to the south, Seventh Avenue South to the west, and 6th Avenue to the east. The smaller section includes the buildings on the west side of Seventh Avenue South between Leroy and Clarkson Streets. The oldest buildings within the proposed extension are modest examples of two-and-a-half and three-story Federal and Greek Revival row houses dating from the 1810s to the 1830s. The tenements within the proposed extension, which began to be developed in the period before and after the Civil War to house the incoming immigrant population, include pre-law, old-law, and new-law examples designed in the Italianate, Neo-Grec, and Beaux-Arts styles. The first- and second-floor facades of several tenements and row houses have been altered for commercial uses, or were altered during the early 20th-century as part of a Village-wide trend of updating buildings to the newer styles then popular, such as Mediterranean Revival and Colonial Revival.

Complementing the small scale and residential character of the proposed Greenwich Village Historic District Extension are the institutional, religious, and larger commercial buildings located along the avenues and on major intersections. Two outstanding examples are Our Lady of Pompeii Church, designed by architect Matthew Del Gaudio and completed in 1926, and the Varitype Building designed by architect Fred Eberling

and completed in 1907. The flat-iron shaped Varitype Building is prominently sited on the southwest corner of Sixth Avenue and West 4th Street, and Del Gaudio's grand Baroque-inspired church presides over Father Demo Square, the triangular park bounded by Carmine and Bleecker Streets and Sixth Avenue at the heart of the neighborhood. The Greenwich House Pottery, at 16 Jones Street, is a reminder of the settlement house movement and the artistic flowering of the neighborhood in the early 20th Century. Established in 1909 as a branch of the Greenwich House, the Pottery later moved into the elegant Colonial Revival-style brick building at 16 Jones Street, designed in 1928 by Delano & Aldrich.

The proposed Greenwich Village Historic District Extension II contains some remarkably intact historic buildings; nevertheless, the stylistic and commercial alterations to tenements and row houses are a defining characteristic of the area. Like those of the Greenwich Village Historic District directly to the north and west, the buildings and streetscapes of the proposed extension tell the story of the artistic and social movements that made the Village famous in the early and mid-20th century as a community of artists, writers, performers, recent immigrants and others.