

From the Parks/Landmarks Committee meeting of June 13, 2005:

Resolution re Interior Designation fo the Hamilton Theater

Whereas Community Board #9 has focused intensively since 1999 on the historic restoration of the 1913 Hamilton Theater on Broadway at 146th St. with the goal that it be returned to full use and accessibility as a Vaudeville Palace among the other forms of theatrical production encouraged by its wide stage, sight lines free of interruption, large seating capacity of 1800, and notable acoustics, and

Whereas the Hamilton Theater housing, which takes its significance from the largely intact theater that it encloses, was awarded landmark designation in 2000 which nevertheless does not offer protection or regulation of the Theater interior itself, and

Whereas if THE BRIDGE Stage of the Arts, whose efforts on behalf of the Theater's restoration are endorsed by CB#9, is able to purchase the theater and effect its restoration, Hugh Hardy of H3, leading theater restoration architect and restorer of both the New Amsterdam and the New Victory Theaters, will be in charge of the restoration: Mr. Hardy's firm has already undertaken a feasibility study of the theater interior which finds that despite neglect the architectural detail of the theater has been well-preserved and can be fully restored, and

Whereas the Landmark Law does not call for an interior landmark to be accessible at the time of designation but rather that it be "An interior or part thereof...which is customarily open or accessible to the public, or to which the public is customarily invited and which has a special historical or aesthetic interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state or nation," (Administrative Code 25-302),

Be it resolved that CB#9 reiterates its urgent concern that the Hamilton Theater interior be designated without further delay so as to protect the possibility of transforming its well-preserved detail into a fully accessible restoration that will serve as a leading landmark, on Broadway, within Upper Manhattan.

Vote of the Committee meeting:

Board/Committee members	8 - 0 - 0
Public member	1 - 0 - 0
Community present	<u>7 - 0 - 0</u>
<u> </u> Total	16 - 0 - 0