



CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

May 20, 2009/Calendar No. 18

N 090369 HKQ

IN THE MATTER OF a communication dated April 1, 2009, from the Executive Director of the Landmarks Preservation Commission regarding the landmark designation of Jamaica High School located at 167-01 Gothic Drive (Block 9858, Lot 100) by the Landmarks Preservation Commission on March 24, 2009 (List No. 411 LP No. 2316), Borough of Queens, Community District 8.

Pursuant to Section 3020.8(b) of the City Charter, the City Planning Commission shall submit to the City Council a report with respect to the relation of any designation by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, whether of a historic district or a landmark, to the Zoning Resolution, projected public improvements, and any plans for the development, growth, improvement or renewal of the area involved.

On March 24, 2009, the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) designated Jamaica High School located at 167-01 Gothic Drive (Block 9858, Lot 100) as a city landmark.

Jamaica High School is located at the intersection of Gothic Drive and 168th Street, close to Downtown Jamaica in Community District 8 in the Borough of Queens. The building has been in use as a New York City public high school since its completion in 1927.

The building is an expansive and imposing three story structure built at the crown of a small rise. The contrasting brick and stone façade, large portico, and symmetrical design place the building firmly in the Georgian Revival tradition, which was common in institutional architecture from the late 19th and early 20th century. The building and grounds were designed by then Superintendent of School Buildings William Gompert. The school's expansive grounds, unusual for a New York City public school, allowed Gompert to create a well-landscaped front lawn that affords wide views of this historic building.

The landmark site is located in an R4 zoning district. Pursuant to Section 74-79 transfer of development rights is not permitted for landmark sites located in R4 zoning districts.

All landmark buildings or buildings within Historic Districts are eligible to apply for use and bulk waivers pursuant to Section 74-711 of the Zoning Resolution.

The subject landmark designation does not conflict with the Zoning Resolution, projected public improvements or any plans for development, growth, improvement or renewal in the vicinity of the landmark.

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