



October 29, 2007

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Chairman Robert Tierney
Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
One Centre Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chairman Tierney,

The Arts and Landmarks Committee of the Women's City Club supports the landmark designation of DUMBO (Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass).

Its distinctive, varied and intact collection of industrial buildings represents the history of manufacturing in Brooklyn in the 19th century. The original Belgian block paving which can still be found on some streets contributes to the unique character of the area.

With so much attention currently focused on building along New York City's waterfronts, designation of DUMBO will provide protection from thoughtless out-of-scale development and demolition while encouraging restoration and adaptive reuse of its many historic buildings.

Although listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places, DUMBO merits the stronger protection that would be provided by its designation as a New York City Landmark.

We urge the Landmarks Preservation Commission to act quickly on this designation.

Sincerely,

Laura Ludwig

Annette Rosen

Co-Chairs, Arts and Landmarks Committee