

Greenwich Village Block Associations

20 Bank Street, New York, NY 10014

Bedford, Barrow & Commerce
Bedford Downing
Bleecker Area Merchants & Residents
Carmine Street
Central Village

(Cornelia, Barrow, Jones)
Charlton Street
Christopher Street Block & Merchants
Christopher Street East
East 10th Street
East 11th Street
East 12th/13th Street
Far West Bank Street
Far West 10th Street
Grove Street
Horatio Street
Jane Street
MacDougal Alley Assoc.
MacDougal Street North
Mercer Street
Minetta
Morton Street
Mulry Angle/W. 11th Street
Perry Street
St. Luke's
Upper West 13th Street
Washington Place
Washington Sq/
Lower 5th Ave
Waverly
Waverly-Bank 11 Neighbors
West Houston Street
West 8th Street
West 9th Street
West 10th Street
West 13th Street - 100 Block

December 2, 2007

Hon. Robert Tierney

Chair, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

One Centre Street, 9th floor

New York, NY 10007

Re: Request for Evaluation for the Forbes Headquarters Building, 60 Fifth Avenue

Dear Chair Tierney,

The Greenwich Village Block Associations is a community wide coalition dedicated to reserving and improving the quality of life for residents of our historic neighborhood. We understand that there are plans being considered to sell the Forbes Headquarters Building at 60 Fifth Avenue for \$140 million. The building is currently without landmark protection. We request that the Landmarks Preservation Commission consider the Forbes Headquarters Building for individual landmark designation or as an extension of the adjacent Greenwich Village Historic District. Without such designation, the building may be demolished and replaced with a larger structure, because the zoning for the site would allow this to occur.

We concur with the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation that the building has long stood as a landmark in the eyes of the public *at this important corner, anchoring the First Presbyterian Church to the south and forming an appropriate transition between the residential character of Greenwich Village to the south and the more commercial character of the blocks to the north. Designed by two of New York's most important architectural firms of the early 20th century, the limestone building combines the neo-classicism and the geometrical abstraction that were common themes in architecture of the time. As the headquarters of both the MacMillan Publishing company, and from 1965 to the present of Forbes, the building's social history carries as much historical significance as its architecture.*

We trust that the Commission will understand the necessity for a timely designation, before a sale has progressed so far that an owner could claim economic hardship based upon the property's price. The loss of such a significant building would be a serious privation for the community. Thank you.

Sincerely yours.

Marilyn Dorato

Executive Director

CC: Hon. Michael Bloomberg

Hon. Thomas Duane

Hon. Deborah Glick

Community Board 2

Hon. Christine Quinn

Hon. Jerry Nadler

Hon. Scott Stringer

Members GVBA