



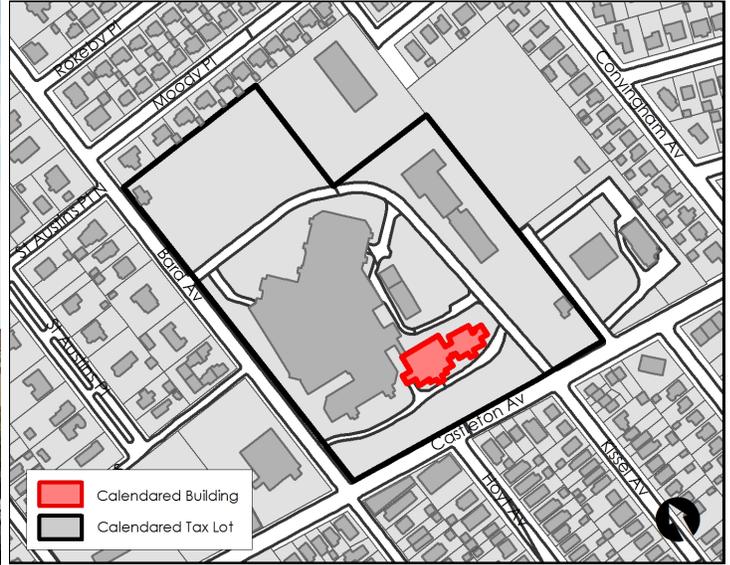
NYC
Landmarks Preservation
Commission

William T. and Mary Marcellite Garner Mansion

355 Bard Avenue, Staten Island
Staten Island Block: 00102; Lot: 0001 (in part)

Backlog Initiative: Addressing 95 Properties
Staten Island Group 1 Items

Staten Island Community Board 1
Public Hearing Date(s): 09/13/1966; 10/11/1966;
8/10/2010; 10/26/2010; 6/28/2011



Photos: (left), 2014 (right) undated research file photo

Special Public Hearings

The Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the backlog of buildings in the Borough of Staten Island on **October 22, 2015** and encourages interested parties to submit written testimony in advance of that hearing. Each speaker will be given three minutes total to speak, and in that time may address all of the items within Staten Island Group 1, just particular items, or add comments to support written testimony. In order to conduct efficient hearings, we ask speakers to register in advance, and submit their written statements and materials that will be read at the hearing by **October 15, 2015** to backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov.

If you have questions about this property or the hearing process please contact backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov or call (212) 669-7817. If you would like more information about this property, please see the research file summary (over) and go to our website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/backlog95>) and click on the link for this building's research file.



**Landmarks Preservation
Commission**

William T. and Mary Marcellite Garner Mansion

Landmark Type: Individual

Description

Built: 1859 - 1860

Architect: Not determined

Style: Second Empire

Research Staff Hearing Statement (2011)

Mansion

355 Bard Avenue (aka 345-355 Bard Avenue), Staten Island

Built: c. 1859-60

Architect: Unknown

Style: Second Empire

Significant Alterations: Addition, c. 1903-06

Previous Actions: Two previous public hearings in 1966



The William T. and Mary Marcellite Garner Mansion is a rare, extant example of an unusually large 1859-60 mansion as well as an early example of a building designed using the Second Empire style in New York City. It is also significant as the original home of St. Vincent's Hospital on Staten Island, the second general-use hospital to be established on the island.

Faced in chiseled brownstone, the house achieves distinction through its monumental scale, massive stone construction, and austere but well-crafted details. The two-story-plus-attic building features a square four-story tower on the west façade facing Bard Avenue. Its notable features include the porte cochère with paired Tuscan columns that opens onto a recessed porch at the base of the tower. Denticulated and bracketed cornices are employed for the mansard roofs of the main house and the tower. The roofs still retain their arched dormers, although they have been simplified.

The house is one of the few freestanding pre-Civil War era mansions still surviving in New York City. It was probably built in 1859-60 by Charles Corey Taber, a prominent cotton broker and real estate developer. In 1870 it was purchased by William T. Garner, the immensely wealthy owner of Harmony Mills, one of the largest textile mills in the country. A vice-commodore of the New York Yacht Club, Garner owned the largest yacht in the world. In the 1880s the house became St. Austin's Episcopal School for Boys, later St. Austin's Military Academy. In 1903 it was acquired by the Sisters of Charity, who had established St. Vincent's Hospital in Greenwich Village. Originally envisioned as a convalescent hospital for tuberculosis patients, it became a general hospital that treated and employed generations of Staten Island's families. The Colonial Revival Style two-story frame addition at the rear of the original house dating from c. 1903-06 was constructed for the hospital's Training School for Nurses.