



Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Rose Harvey  
Commissioner

## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Historic Preservation Field Services • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189  
518-237-8643

www.nysparks.com

March 11, 2011

Denise Langer  
Associate General Counsel  
New York University  
Elmer Holmes Bobst Library  
70 Washington Square South  
New York, NY 10012-1091

Re: DASNY  
NYU in NYC University Village  
Washington Square Village  
New York County  
10PR03999

Dear Ms. Langer:

Thank you for continuing to consult with the New York State Field Services Bureau of the Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the additional information regarding the Washington Square Village Site (WSV Site) in accordance with the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980 (Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law). These comments are those of the Field Services Bureau and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources. They do not include other environmental impacts to New York State Parkland that may be involved in or near your project. Such impacts must be considered as part of the environmental review of the project pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8) and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617).

Our architectural historian for New York City has determined that the WSV Site is eligible for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The Resource Evaluation is enclosed for your use. We understand that the original plan to construct a fourth tower on the University Village site will not proceed. We request to review any proposed work at the site when plans are available.

If you have any questions or if you wish to discuss our comments I can be reached at (518) 237-8643, ext. 3282. Please refer to the Project Review (PR) number in any future correspondences regarding this project.

Sincerely,

Beth A. Cumming  
Historic Site Restoration Coordinator  
e-mail: [Beth.cumming@oprhp.state.ny.us](mailto:Beth.cumming@oprhp.state.ny.us)

cc: R. Derico – DASNY  
J. Homkow – DASNY  
Enc: Resource Evaluation

via e-mail

## RESOURCE EVALUATION

Date:	February 23, 2011	Staff:	Kathy Howe
Property:	Washington Square Village	MCD:	Manhattan
Address:	Bounded by W. 3rd, Bleecker St., Mercer St. & LaGuardia Place	County:	New York
<b>Project Ref. No.:</b>	<b>10PR03999</b>	USN:	06101.016170

**I.**  Property is individually listed on SR/NR :

Name of listing :

Property is a contributing component of a SR/NR district:

Name of District:

**II.**  Property meets eligibility criteria

Property contributes to a district which appears to meet eligibility criteria.

Pre SRB:  Post SRB:  SRB Date

**Criteria for inclusion in the National Register.**

- A**  **Associated** with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- B**  **Associated** with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- C**  Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction; or represents the work of a master; or possess high artistic values; or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose component may lack individual distinction;
- D**  **Have yielded**, or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

The SHPO concurs with the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission's finding of 5/21/07 that Washington Square Village appears to be eligible for National Register listing. It is the opinion of the SHPO that the superblock complex of two residential towers, elevated landscaped plaza, commercial strip, and below-grade parking meets Criterion C as an impressive example of postwar urban renewal planning and design. Paul Lester Wiener working with S.J. Kesler & Sons Architects designed the complex which was constructed between 1956 and 1958. The towers are notable for their vibrant blue, yellow, and red glazed brickwork that contrasts with the field of grey glazed brick. Corbusian influences are shown by the sculptural elements hiding mechanical equipment on the roof and the pilotis forms at the base. Sasaki, Walker & Associates were responsible for the landscape which is one of the earliest parking structure roof gardens in the country.

If you have any questions concerning this Determination of Eligibility, please call Kathy Howe at 518-237-8643. ext 3266