

October 26, 2010

STATEMENT OF THE NEW YORK LANDMARKS CONSERVANCY BEFORE THE N.Y.C. LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF THE PARK PLACE HISTORIC DISTRICT IN BROOKLYN

Good morning, Chair Tierney and Commissioners. I am Andrea Goldwyn, speaking on behalf of The New York Landmarks Conservancy.

The Conservancy strongly supports the historic district designation before you today. We are pleased to join with homeowners, neighbors, public officials, and preservationists in doing so.

The small group of row houses that comprises the Park Place District forms an unusually intact and cohesive streetscape. With charming Queen Anne style details, this row clearly meets the "sense of place" test which is fundamental to the designation of an historic district. We are pleased to support designation of this district, and look forward to providing its residents technical and financial assistance.

The Conservancy hopes that designation of this District, which lies just west of the Crown Heights North districts, will be followed by additional designations in Crown Heights and Bedford Stuyvesant. Park Place, like the Alice and Agate Courts District designated last year, is a jewel-like group of picturesque buildings. There are, however, many other neighborhoods in this section of Brooklyn including the larger Crow Hill district and others which the Conservancy helped make eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, with long blocks of remarkable historic architecture that merit the recognition and protection of the Landmarks Law.

Thank you for the opportunity to present The Landmarks Conservancy's views.