

# L. E. S. P. I.

LESPI-NYC.ORG

January 23, 2025

Sarah Carroll, Chair  
Landmarks Preservation Commission  
1 Centre Street  
New York, New York 10007

**RE: Stanton Street Shul—180 Stanton Street, New York, NY**

Dear Chair Carroll,

Attached here is the Lower East Side Preservation Initiative's Request for Evaluation for the Stanton Street Shul. Designed by Louis A. Sheinart in a Classically inspired style, and built in 1913, this still-active synagogue typifies a significant architectural type—the "tenement synagogue." These intimately scaled religious buildings, side-by-side with residential tenements, were once ubiquitous on the streets of the Lower East Side, at a time when its Jewish immigrants comprised the largest Jewish population in the world. While many buildings housing Jewish congregations have disappeared, and some have been repurposed for residential and commercial uses, the Stanton Street Shul building remains much the same as it was in 1913—112 years ago—and its services continue.

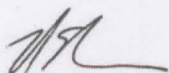
Those who walk around the Lower East Side see many streetscapes altered through the demolition or defacement of singular historic structures. Along with this destruction is the sweeping away of the collective memory of the neighborhood's immigrant past. Yet, the area is among the most significant for the city's and country's history—a place that has witnessed the arrival and succession of various ethnic groups from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century until today.

While this iconic area has no designated historic districts (though it is a National Register district), LESPI has proposed for city landmarking not only two potential historic districts, but also several significant individual buildings. We add the Stanton Street Shul to this group as we very much believe it merits the protection of landmark status.

This RFE was prepared by LESPI Vice President Deborah Wye, with the assistance of Lisa Vogl. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Wye at [debwye@gmail.com](mailto:debwye@gmail.com) or 917-846-2953.

With thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,



Richard Moses, President  
cc: Deborah Wye

Lower East Side Preservation Initiative

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