November 12, 2010

The Honorable Robert J. Tierney, Chairman
Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

RE: 35 Cooper Square

Dear Chairman Tierney:

The undersigned representatives of the organizations listed below urge you and the Commission to calendar 35 Cooper Square for consideration as an individual NYC landmark. This federal-style building is a rare survivor from the Bowery’s early 19th century development as a residential quarter while reflecting the historical transformation of the famed street to mixed commercial/residential use when the first elevated railroad was introduced in the 1870s.

In addition to its architectural significance, its important historical and cultural associations range from a direct descendant of Peter Stuyvesant to the building’s much later habitation by Diane DiPrima, the most influential woman of the Beat Generation. This much-beloved little building has been both a significant participant and a surviving witness to New York City history for 200 years! Under the stipulations of the Landmarks Law, it qualifies on architectural, historical and cultural criteria for designation as a NYC individual landmark.

Please read the enclosed RFE and research materials, including the cited documentation, which so clearly justifies the case for designation.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this RFE.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Grubler
Chair, Landmarks Committee
Bowery Alliance of Neighbors

Simeon Bankoff
Executive Director
Historic Districts Council

Richard Moses
Executive Director
Lower East Side
Preservation Initiative